Northcote Leader.

Largest Circulation and Best Advertising Medium in the Northern Districts,
Circulating throughout Northcote, Preston, Thomastown, Epping, Whittlesea, Fairfield, Heidelberg, Clifton Hill

Registered at the General Post Office, Melbourne, for transmission by post as a Newspaper.

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1909.

Printed and published by the proprietors, R. J. and J. S. Whalley, at their office, 383 High street, Northcote, in the State of Victoria.

Price 1d

Ask for Bosisto's "Parrot Brand" Eucalyptus Oil. SOLD everywhere.

Kruse's Fluid Magnesia

Produce Merchants.

J. A. BOSTOCK,
405 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE,

WISHES to thank his patrons for their past favors, and also to inform them that he sells the best

BOX FIREWOOD!
NEWCASTLE COAL,
TASMANIAN COAL,

at Melbourne Prices for Cash.

Cut Green Bone, Victorian Chicken Meal, Pigeon Peas, Canary Seed and Sand, also Shell Grit for Fowls.

All kinds of Produce at Lowest Rates.

A. WATSON'S
HAY & CORN STORE
Wood & Coke Yard,
is at
54 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE,
corner Robb's Parade.

Best Wheaten and Oaten Chaff direct from country | Firewood and Coal of all Descriptions
AT LOWEST PRICES.
MIXED BLOCKS (1ft.) by measurement,
2 tons 24/-
1 ton 12/6
½ ton 6/6

A CHEAP FEED, suitable for pigs or poultry, worth inspection.

Announcements

H. C. Saunders,
PRACTICAL
TAILOR,
269 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.

Individual tastes and requirements of customers considered.
Moderate charges, coupled with first-class workmanship and fit.
Choice Selection of Suitings Vestings and Trouserings for this season's wear.

REMEMBER
THAT N.
Hansen's Dining Rooms
359 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE,
can always be
RELIED UPON
For Good, Well Cooked, Appetising Meals
Dinners a Speciality.

On Sale—Butter, Cheese, and general Dairy Produce and also Small Goods of the highest quality.
Good Accommodation for Boarders. Civility and Attention to all
Stabling for Horses.
N.B.—N.H. will always be pleased to see old friends from the country and new ones.

PICTURES FRAMED
in Up-to-Date and Artistic Style
at
G. H. JACOBS'
255 JOHNSTON STREET, FITZROY
(5 doors west from Smith St).
and at
315 BRUNSWICK STREET.

Enlargements Framed from 2/6.

Wholesale and Retail.

GET YOUR HAIR-CUT & SHAVE
at
F. SMITH'S
Up-to-Date Hairdressing Saloon,
242 High St., Northcote.

Cleanliness, Civility, Attention.
Razor Setting a Speciality.

J. W. DURANCE,
(late of Catanach's) **Watchmaker,**
Fifth door Equitable Buildings, Collins St., City,
Repairs Watches of all kinds,
Sells Reliable Levers, Gold, Silver, Gun Metal.
Private Address: 38 Salisbury Grove, Northcote, where orders may be left.

Undertakers

HENRY J. R. LEWIS,
UNDERTAKER
and
CERTIFICATED EMBALMER,
HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
Head Office:
Corner of Johnston & Hertford Streets,
FITZROY.

H.L. is prepared to conduct Funerals at the lowest possible rates to suit all classes.
Hearses, Mourning Coaches, and Funeral Requisites.
Coffins, all sizes, for country orders.
The Trade supplied.
Telephone 1160.

Sole Patentee of the Disinfecting Coffin for preventing contagion. Established 1866.
W. G. APPS,
UNDERTAKER,
MOOR STREET, FITZROY,
Near Labour-in-Vain Hotel,
And High and Robe Streets, St. Kilda.
Also Branch Burgundy Street, Heidelberg
Tel. No. 60, Heidelberg Exchange.

Patent and every description of coffin at five minutes' notice.
Hearses, Coaches, &c.

A.N.A. A.W.A.
R. ROBSON,
UNDERTAKER,
CORNER of
BRUNSWICK ST. and ST. GEORGE'S ROAD (opposite Cricket Ground),
NORTH FITZROY.
Telephone 1844.
Estab. 47 years.

Established 1854.
ALFRED ALLISON,
UNDERTAKER,
Head Office—221 Victoria St.,
Tel. 930. WEST MELB.
High Street, Northcote.
Queen's Parade, Clifton Hill.
Tel. 2772.
All Funeral arrangements promptly attended to.
Charges Moderate | Terms Arranged

SUCCESS
Awaits the man who keeps his business prominently before the people. The merchant who advertises and tells people who he is, what he is doing, and asks them courteously and persistently for their trade, is the one who will do the most business.

Business Notices.

R. B. LAWRENCE,
Dyer, Cleaner & Feather Dresser.
A Suit or Dress like new from 5/6.
Illustrated Price List and Address Labels sent Post Free.
MELBOURNE—4 Elizabeth Street,
50 Swanston Street,
Royal Arcade.
ALL SUBURBS.
Offices & Works
CUNNINGHAM STREET,
NORTHCOTE.

J. T. COLES & Co., Cash Grocers,
NORTHCOTE, THORNBURY, & PRESTON.

NOTE A FEW OF OUR HOLIDAY PRICES:—

Machine cleaned Currants, 6½d
" " Raisins, 4½d and 5½d
S. & A. Seeded Raisins, 6½d
Lemon Peel, 6½d
Table Jellies, 10½d dozen
Custard Powders, 8½d dozen
Rice, Mixed, and Coffee Biscuits, 4d lb.
New Dates, 4d lb
New Figs, 5d box
Plum Puddings, 10½d, 1/4½d, 2/3

Xmas Cakes, 1/1, 1/3, 1/4, 2/ tin
Fruit and Plain Cake, 6d lb.
Rosella Pears, 9d Rosella Peaches, 8½d
" Apricots, 7½d " Quinces, 6½d
" Cherries, 8d
Lemon Squash, 6d Lime Juice, 6d
Raspberry Vinegar, 6d and 10½d
Oysters, 5½d tin
Mince Meat, 10½d tin
Lunch Cakes, 6d each O.T. Punch, 1/

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!
SEND YOUR LINEN TO THE
NORTHCOTE LAUNDRY
HIGH STREET (nearly opposite London Bank).
A VICTORIA HIGH-SPEED **IRONING MACHINE** USED,
which turns out
Shirts and Collars Equal to New
and Saves Half the Wear and Tear.

Shirts, Washed and Ironed — 4d | Collars, Washed and Ironed — 1d
" Ironed only — 3d | " Ironed only — ½d
All Classes of Washing and Ironing done, also MANGLING.
Orders Called for and Delivered. A Trial Solicited.
MRS. FRAWLEY, Proprietress.

Smith & Sons
TRADE MARK REGD. GOLD MEDALISTS
HAM & BACON CURERS
AND
Small Goods Manufacturers.
'Phone 1160. NORTHCOTE, Vic.

Champion and First Prize Winners FOR HAMS and BACON AT THE Royal Agricultural Show, MELBOURNE.

Our High-Class Goods
Are Noted Throughout the Commonwealth for their
Savory, Delicious, & Appetising Quality
And are stocked by All Grocers and Dairy Produce Merchants.
Our FRITZ and FRANKFORTS are Just the Thing for the Tea & Breakfast Table.

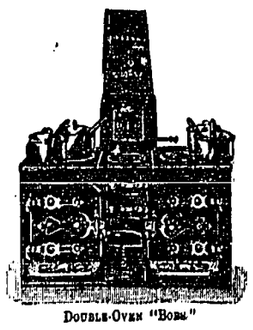
All Goods Manufactured under the Supervision of the Central Board of Health.
FACTORY AND OFFICE: "MERRIBANK," NORTHCOTE.

T. KERR,
PASTRYCOOK and CONFECTIONER,
76 and 328 Smith Street,
COLLINGWOOD.

Wedding and Christmas Cakes a Speciality.
Wedding Cakes forwarded to all parts of the State.
REFRESHMENT ROOMS.
Tea and Coffee always ready.

FREE BOOKS! Over 3000 to select from, including all classes of Literature and Reference Works.
NORTHCOTE PUBLIC LIBRARY,
Town Hall.
Open Every Evening and also on Monday and Friday Afternoons.
Illustrated Australian, English and American Magazines.
Cosy and well-furnished Reading Room.
R. J. WHALLEY, Hon. Sec.

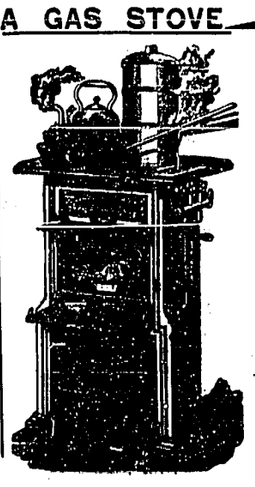
TO Have the Least Possible Expense and the Greatest Comfort in Cooking, use a
"BOBS"
(burns coal or wood)
Made in three sizes—No. 1, 2ft. wide
No. 2, 2ft. 3in. wide
No. 3, 3 ft. wide
Plate Warmers and Boilers can be fitted to either side.
Our many customers testify that "BOBS" is the most up-to-date FUEL SAVER.



DOUBLE-OVEN "BOBS."

Wallis Bros. & Co.
IRONFOUNDERS and STOVE MANUFACTURERS,
Cramer Street, Preston.
Showroom—410 Bourke Street, Melbourne
(opposite Kirk's Bazaar.)
Sole Manufacturers of the Beadle Patent Cast Iron Revolving Washing Copper Frames, suitable for Dairymen, Butchers, and ordinary household use.
Very Durable and Economical. Write for Catalogues.

For the Proper Equipment of a Modern Home,
A GAS STOVE
Is an Absolute Essential.



A GAS STOVE ensures
Excellence in Cookery
at the least possible trouble and expense, also freedom from Soot, Smoke, and Ashes, thereby resulting at all times in a delightfully CLEAN and COOL KITCHEN.
Needs minimum attention. Easily managed, and is a veritable boon to the busy housewife.
Can be obtained on rental from 1/6 per month, or on hire purchase terms. Small deposit and 2/6 per month.

Metropolitan Gas Company,
156 Flinders St., Melbourne.
Tel. Nos. 339, 368, 8743, 7613.

VOICE FROM ACROSS THE SEAS.

MY EXPERIENCES IN REGENT, OXFORD AND BOND STREETS

Before relating my experiences in these great streets I must mention two little incidents which will enable the reader to see the spirit which actuated the mind of the tourist as he visited the great establishments in those streets. The story is told that over 30 years ago the late Mr. Buckley, of Buckley and Nunn's, Bourke street, Melbourne, was one day looking at a window in Collins street, and there were three ladies standing looking at the next window. On learning the time they said "Our train will not leave for an hour, let's go round to Buckley's and put in the time," and away they marched. Mr. Buckley was in his office when they came in. They first sat at this counter then at the other; looked intently at many articles but purchased none. Mr. Buckley timed them, and coming forward with watch in hand said "Excuse me ladies, you have put in the time, your hour is just up and unless you hurry you will not catch your train."

The other little incident is as follows:—Two ladies after being seated at a draper's counter were shown by the salesman quite a number of dress pieces. They looked at them all and admired and praised many. The salesman was not quite sure which was the buyer, or if they both were, they seemed so deeply interested. He was encouraging himself to believe that each one might give him an order, when they suddenly rose, saying they were sorry to have given him so much trouble but that they were "only looking for a friend." He replied that it was a pleasure to him to help them to find their friend and if they thought their friend was to be found among the few goods still left in the fixtures he would place them all on the counter and they could look through them in order that they might find their friend.

So having nothing to do and all the day to do it in I went into Regent, Oxford and Bond streets to "Put in the time" and "Only looking for a friend."

Regent and Oxford streets are two very fine streets, probably the finest in London. They are both very wide, well made, and well kept The citizens are very proud of these streets. The wealthy ladies of London do their shopping here, and carriages with coachmen and footmen, not one or two as we see them in Collins street of an afternoon, but by the hundreds, they are to be seen almost at any time during the busy hours of the day. The pavements are also well filled with a fashionable, and for the most part, good looking and healthy people. The tourist, or any one else for that matter, may, with open mouth and eyes, stand and gaze with wonderment, or he may strain his neck in looking up at the splendid buildings. No one makes any remark, he is not even noticed, and probably not seen, for everyone is on their business bent. The buildings are also very fine and up to date with smartness, a brightness and a whiteness not be seen elsewhere in London. This arrests the attention of the tourist. He cannot help but exclaim "This is very fine." Then the window displays of these establishments are magnificent. Being anxious to know how business was conducted in these establishments, I went into several and when spoken to by shop-walker or salesman answered "Only looking for a friend." Occasionally someone would be deputed to help me to find my friend. In going through these establishments in this manner I not only saw but learnt much of the way retail business is done among the best class houses in London. Also learnt that while the profits were large the expenses were enormous. I came to the conclusion from general observation during my stay in London that whilst most of the business men in the suburbs of Melbourne, and indeed with but few exceptions in the City itself, have been making a pound note, the London merchant has been making a hundred, and where the hundred has been made in Melbourne, the Londoner has been making his tens of thousands. Should a customer be lost here half-a-dozen others fill his place. The money is here and the people also.

There are over two million more people in what is termed greater London than what there is in the vast continent of Australia all put together. This population, without reckoning on the tens of thousands in England, Ireland, and Scotland, who are continually visiting London, and the vast multitude, the hundreds of thousands of visitors and tourists from the Continent, America, and other parts of the world, all added to the ordinary London trade, creates a volume of business unsurpassed and unequalled anywhere in the world.

Continuing my round to "put in the time" and "looking for a friend," in two or three instances I happened to meet the proprietor or a member of the firm. I found the London retail merchants are only too pleased to show me round, very communicative and free in conversation. In one of the largest establishments in Regent street I met the head of the firm himself. He conducted me over his immense place, from the basement to the top of the flat roof, and here had a very fine view of London for many miles round. This gentleman told me that he (his firm) had sunk £200,000 in the buildings on which we stood, and this so recently as the year 1895, and that at the end of the lease, 80 years from the date of building, they would revert back to the owner of the land. This establishment cost £20,000 to furnish. When one reckons the cost of the buildings, of the fittings, furniture, &c., and adds to this the value of the immense stock, an enormous turnover is necessary, and an enormous turnover they do. I may just mention that I did myself the honour in accepting this merchant's invitation to dinner, for in him I had not only "found a friend" but a good dinner also.

(To be continued).

EPPING SHIRE NEWS.

"OUR SEASIDE EXCURSION."

The day following the recent seaside excursion the head master of the Epping State School (Mr. F. J. Andrews) asked his scholars, by way of a composition exercise, to write an account of the outing. Of these productions he sends usthe, all very creditable. We select two for publication. No. 1 is by Leslie Mudge, of class v., and No. 2 by Cyril Houston, class iv.

(No. 1).

Our seaside excursion to Hampton was held yesterday, 23rd Feb., 1909. It was attended by many hundreds of people, who enjoyed themselves very much There were two special trains to take us there. At Epping we tried to get in the first train, but it was packed full, and it must have been very uncomfortable for a number of people. There was plenty of room in the second train, and all were able to get in. The train kept stopping all along the line, till, at last, we began to think we would never reach our destination. We were eagerly watching the names on the stations, till, at last, we saw Hampton printed in big letters. We jumped out of the train, hurried to the tea gardens, and had our dinner. We then ran down to the beach, and went in for a swim. It was nice and hot, and consequently many of us got sunburnt, but we did not take any notice of that. There were many interesting creatures and other objects to see. On finding a very curious creature, we took it out to two gentlemen on the beach, who told us it was an octopus.

I am sorry to say that there were thieves about, who rifled the pockets of excursionists while they were in bathing.

We were very much amused in chasing some small fish, which came from under the sand as we walked along through the water. I stayed in the water till it was time to have our tea. I then came out, dressed, and went up to the tea gardens. Here I found all the rest of our party having their tea. I had mine, and then got on a revolving see-saw till it was time to leave for the train.

We got in the second train and on reaching Bell, where the train had to wait, the people ran from carriages to the tap, with cups, mugs, jugs, teapots, and billies. One man even filled his boxer hat with water.

At last the train whistled, everybody rushed to their carriages, and the train sped along to Epping. Here we left the train, and began to wend our way homewards. At last we got home and went to bed, tired out. Thus ended our enjoyable seaside excursion, which, everybody hopes will take place again next year.

(No. 2).

I enjoyed the picnic very much. I am very sorry that so many things got lost, but hope they will be found again. I did not go in swimming, but I went in paddling. Hampton is really a nice place for a picnic, and the view around is lovely. I don't think any could say they did not enjoy themselves. The day was so nice, it made me wish I was a little fish so I could stay in the water all day. If picnic days only lasted a week, instead of a few hours, how happy we boys would be. However, we must all look forward to the next one, and hope to have as fine a day as Tuesday.

LIVER TROUBLES.

Bile Beans are a Boon to All Sufferers.

If you suffer from any of the following symptoms of Liver trouble, it is a sign that you need a course of Bile Beans to put you right:—When you wake up in the morning is your tongue coated? Is there a bitter taste in your mouth, and a feeling of nausea? Do you feel heavy and tired? Do you have headache? Are you troubled with giddiness, palpitation, pain in the head, or a dull pain in the side? And do you generally feel out-of-sorts and fit for nothing? Bile Beans quickly set right the disordered liver, and restore its natural functions.

Mrs. A. Lovell, of Best street, Wagga, N.S.W., says:—"For years I suffered from Biliousness and Headache—the outcome of a disordered Liver. I could not bear the sight of food; everything seemed to be swimming about me; and the least noise irritated me. I tried many so-called remedies with a view of getting rid of my complaints, but without success. I was strongly advised to give Bile Beans a trial, and after taking the first few doses I began to feel benefited. Persevering with the Beans, I was greatly surprised how well they had done their work. I can confidently recommend Bile Beans to anyone suffering from the effects of Liver Disorder, such as Biliousness and Headache."

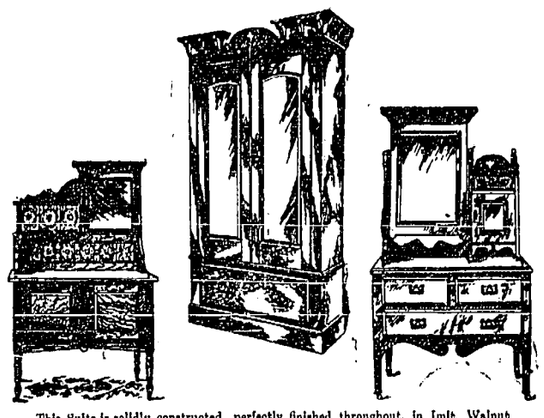
Bile Beans are the standard family medicine, and only reliable remedy for Biliousness, Headache, Indigestion, Constipation, Piles, Nausea, Belching, Dizziness, Jaundice, and all Liver, Stomach and digestive disorders. Sold at 1/1½d and 2/9 per box by all Chemists and Stores. Don't gamble with your health by accepting cheap substitutes.

Printing!
Work of Every Class executed at the LEADER OFFICE

Business Notices.

SPECIAL BEDROOM SUITE

SPECIAL VALUE



SPECIAL PRICE

This Suite is solidly constructed, perfectly finished throughout, in Imit. Walnut or Light wood, consisting of 4ft. Wardrobe with 2 bevelled plate glass doors & large drawer, 3ft. 6in. Toilet Table with massive bevelled plate mirror, cupboard with glass door and three large drawers; 3ft. 6in. washstand, marble top and tile back, with bevelled plate mirror and shelf.

We supply this Suite complete or in separate pieces.

SPECIAL PRICE for ONE MONTH ONLY, £12.

CLAUSCEN & CO.
194-6 Bourke St., Melbourne.

MOA CYCLES

For price, quality, and neatness in design we defy competition.

All joints are double-butted in the No. 1 as in the Moa Special.

We give a **ten years' guarantee** to replace any part of a Moa Cycle frame or forks found defective or if broken.

No. 1, £8 10/-. No. 2, £10 10/-. All Accessories Free.

The Moa Special, £14 10/. We ask you to compare this model with any make of cycle in Victoria, and will refund money if better value can be obtained.

B.S.A. Cycles, £12 10/.
Large stock of Covers and Tubes, all makes, at Lowest Prices. Repairs to any make of cycle.

Merson's, 218 High St., Northcote.

L. G. GODLEY,
UPHOLSTERER,
531 HIGH ST., THORNBURY.

HAVING purchased the stock of Mr. S. DEVENPORT,
Painter, of 563 High St., Thornbury
I am prepared to sell Oils, Paints, Varnish, White Lead, Methylated Spirits, Turps, Benzine, &c., at lowest market prices.

GLASS CUT TO SIZE.

Estate Agents

TOWN HALL ESTATE AGENCY.
W. Freebairn & Co.
(SWORN VALUERS),
HOUSE & LAND
Agents,
HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
Houses for Sale—small deposit; balance as rent.
Rents Collected. Insurances Effected.
Loans Negotiated.
Commissions executed.
Valuations made. Auction Sales arranged.
Agents for the Manchester Fire Assurance

Membrey & Deane
(J. G. MEMBREY—J. V. DEANE),
Estate, Financial & Insurance Agents,
Accountants, &c.,
HAVE much pleasure in informing the general public they have commenced business at York Buildings, 43 Queen St., Melbourne.
Mr Membrey has had a lengthened experience as a municipal valuer and is also a sworn valuer under the Transfer of Land Act.
Mr. Deane has had over 17 years' experience with two leading city firms of solicitors.
Fire and Life Insurance a speciality.
Large and small sums of trust monies to lend. Loans negotiated on usual terms.
All business placed in the hands of the above firm will receive prompt attention.

Nurse Phillips,
CERTIFICATED MIDWIFE,
HAS Vacancies for Ladies during Accouchment. Fees, £3 3/. Every home comfort, doctor if required. Patients admitted any hour.
Outdoor cases attended. Fee, £1.
"St. Hellers,"
Merri St., Northcote (near P.O.)

Private Hospital,
22 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE SOUTH
(3 doors from Walker St).
ALL Patients carefully treated. Outside Cases visited. Doctor if desired.
MIDWIFERY AND SURGICAL.
MRS. SPARROW,
Women's Hospital, Melbourne.
Reg. B.V.T.N.A. Terms Moderate.

NURSE ROKEHERST ROBERTS,
Certificates Melbourne and Women's Hospitals,
14 NORMANBY AVENUE, UPPER NORTHCOTE.
Correspondence invited.

IF YOUR **WATCH** DOES NOT KEEP TIME
TAKE IT TO
GEO. H. ARMFIELD,
126 SMITH STREET, COLLINGWOOD
(next to Foy & Gibson's).
Satisfaction Guaranteed.
SPECTACLES TO SUIT ALL SIGHTS.

A. SANGUINETTI,
THE OLDEST-ESTABLISHED
HOUSE DECORATOR & PAINTER
IN THE DISTRICT.
Estimates Given for all kinds of House Repairs.
ON SALE—
Paperhangings
from 2½d per roll.
Dry Colors from 2d lb., 7 lbs. for 1/-.
Artists' Materials, Alabastine, Leads, Oils, Stainers' Varnishes, Plain & Fancy Glass, &c
Special Concessions to the Trade.
Muranese Glass cut to Size from 10d per foot.
Address: 347 High Street, Northcote
Close to Tramway Penny Section).

To know a good job, have a good job done by
D. B. MASSON,
DECORATOR
Paperhanger, Grainer, Glazier, Signwriter.

IF you have not time to call on me let me call on you about those renovations when you can have the benefit of my London and Edinburgh experience.
Don't wait to see how so and so have their house done. Come right away and I will show you the latest designs and methods.
Country orders have our special attention and work carried through without delay or inconvenience to occupants.
Only respectable, reliable TRADESMEN employed.
212 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.

FARMERS AND GRAZIERS
Of Preston & Epping shires.

PLEASE NOTE!
—THAT—
T. HERLEY & CO.,
Woolscourers, &c.,
Oakover Rd., South Preston,
ARE CASH BUYERS OF
WOOL AND SKINS.
Highest Price Paid. No Commissions Charged.
Write or Call if you have Anything to Sell—*it will pay you.*
T HERLEY & CO., South Preston.

Established 30 years.
W. FIRTH
GENERAL DRAPER,
344 SMITH STREET,
COLLINGWOOD
(Below Johnston St).

Northcote (Free & Circulating)
LIBRARY
Open Every Night from 7 till 10; also on Monday and Friday afternoons from 3 till 5.
SPLENDID COLLECTION of BOOKS.
Subscription Fee of 2s 6d per quarter enables the Reader to take books home.
R. J. WHALLEY, Hon. Sec

Tailors

INCE BROS.,
TAILORS & OUTFITTERS.
NEW SPRING GOODS.
NEW SPRING GOODS.
NEW SPRING GOODS.
Suits from £3 3/-; Trousers from 15/6.
If we do not please you, tell us; if we do please you, tell others.
174 SWANSTON ST., MELBOURNE.

IF YOU are are looking for a really good stylish Suit, write at once to
"OUR TAILORS,"
VEREY & CROSS,
242 SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD,
Where you get a fashionably-cut and serviceable Suit at bed-rock prices. Every article made on the premises by experienced workmen and under personal supervision.
Country orders attended to with utmost despatch.
Don't forget the only address—
"Our Tailors,"
VEREY & CROSS,
242 SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD.

Tailor & Mercer,
PLENTY RD. & GARNET STS.,
SOUTH PRESTON.

Arch. Wilkinson,
Ladies' & Gentlemen's Tailor.
NEW GOODS for the Coming Season Just Arrived.
STRAW HATS a Specty.
Latest Shades and Shapes in Soft Felt Hats.
A Large Assortment of Shirts, Ties, Hosiery of every description.
Have a Look at our Window Display.
LADIES' COSTUMES A SPECIAL STUDY.

J. G. Alston,
PRACTICAL TAILOR,
324 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE
(late Smith St. and City.)
Fit and Style Guaranteed.
Prices to Suit all Pockets. Suits from 35/-
Trousers, 10/6 upwards.
TRIAL SOLICITED.

A. RAYMOND,
Practical
TAILOR and MERCER,
HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE,
opposite Town Hall,
HAS a Splendid Variety of NEW GOODS at PRICES to SUIT ALL CUSTOMERS.
A PERFECT FIT is GUARANTEED and the STYLE is UP-TO-DATE.

Announcements

W. T. ROWE
(Over 17 years with F. Yann, also large English experience),
COACHBUILDER, WHEELWRIGHT, and GENERAL BLACKSMITH,
Corner of HIGH and DUNDAS STS.
UPPER NORTHCOTE
(opposite Tram Terminus, Preston).
Buggies, Jinkers, Waggons, Drays, and Carts of every description built on the most reasonable terms.
Repairs Promptly Executed.
Vehicles Bought, Sold, and Exchanged.
Horses Carefully Shod, called for and and Returned.
Best Materials Used. All Work Guaranteed.

FARMERS!
Take your Hay to
C. Wilkinson's
NEW
Chaffcutting Works,
HIGH STREET, PRESTON
(near Shire Hall),
Having had large experience C.W. is confident of being able to give all who entrust him with their cutting the greatest satisfaction.
CHARGES MODERATE.
The trade supplied with chaff, also customers in lots of not less than half-ton.

Plumbers.

PUBLIC NOTICE.
J. DENYER,
LICENSED PLUMBER & GASFITTER, TINSMITH & IRONWORKER,
Next Wesleyan Schoolroom,
232 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE
Water Meters Fixed and Repaired.
Gas and Water Laid On
Estimates Given for General Repairs.

To Landlords, Householders and Builders.
Edwards & Howard,
Licensed
PLUMBERS, GASFITTERS,
Mechanical and Electric Bell Hangers, Steam, Hot, and Cold Water Engineers and Sanitary Plumbers,
Guarantee All Work for Twelve Months.
Gas & Water laid on. Estimates submitted Work promptly executed.
Corner High and Clarke Streets,
NORTHCOTE.

Does Your
WATER-PIPE LEAK
GAS-PIPE LEAK!
ROOF LEAK?
S. McDOUGALL,
LICENSED PLUMBER,
Next Railway,
NORMANBY AVENUE,
NORTHCOTE,
WILL SET MATTERS RIGHT—
Promptly—Reliably—Cheaply.
Water Meters Fixed. Gas & Water laid on

For Sale.
FIRST-CLASS Garden Soil (rich, black loam) for Sale.—J. Milot, Beaver's rd., Northcote.

Church Notices

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, NORTHCOTE

Sunday Services:
Rev. A. C. KELLAWAY, B.A., morning and evening.
Special meeting of congregation to make arrangements for celebrating the Jubilee, Thursday, 8 p.m.

HOLY TRINITY, THORNBURY.

Second Sunday in Lent.
8 a.m., Holy Communion.
11 a.m., Matins and Litany with Sermon.
7 p.m., Choral Evensong and Sermon.

INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, TOWN HALL, NORTHCOTE

Rev. HECTOR FERGUSON, Minister.
Morning, "The Simultaneous Mission."
Evening, "Angel Visitors. Startling convincing proofs."

NORTHCOTE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (JAMES ST.)

Sabbath Services:
Rev. R. W. ROCK, morning and evening.
Anthems:—Morning, "I am Alpha and Omega" (Stainer), soprano solo.
Evening, "The Lamb shall lead them." Tenor Solo, "If with all your hearts" (Mendelssohn).

NORTHCOTE METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday Services:
Morning, Rev. BRIDE BARBER.
Evening, Rev. H. ROBBINS.
Strangers warmly welcomed.

NORTHCOTE METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL.

FIFTY FIFTH ANNIVERSARY,
Sunday, 14th March.
Morning at 11, Rev. J. NALL.
[illegible] 3, Rev. C. TREGEAR.
[illegible] 7, Mrs. BRIDE BARBER.
[illegible]w School, Monday, March 15,
[illegible]cert at 8. Admission, silver

NORTHCOTE BAPTIST CHURCH, Kimberley Hall, Darebin Road.

Rev. T. NICHOLS, morning and evening.
All welcome.

PRINCE OF WALES' PARK METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday Services:
Morning, Mrs. BRIDE BARBER.
Evening, Mr. S. GIBLETT.
All Seats Free. Strangers welcomed.

PRESTON CHURCH OF CHRIST, Bradford Hall, High St.

Preacher, WILLIAM PATTERSON.
Ladies invited Wednesdays at 2.30 p.m.
Try and come.
All welcome. No collection.

SOUTH PRESTON METHODIST CHURCH.

S.S. ANNIVERSARY.
Morning, Rev. W. WILLIAMS, F.L.S.
Afternoon at 3 and Evening at 7, Rev. HORTON WILLIAMS.
Bright singing. All welcome.

SALVATION ARMY, MITCHELL ST., NORTHCOTE.

Sunday, 7th March.
Meetings at 7 and 11 a.m., 3 and 7 p.m.
All are welcome.

Local Government.

TOWN OF NORTHCOTE.

DOG ACT 1890.

Notice is hereby given that Registration Fees for Dogs are due on the first day of March, and that all persons keeping an unregistered dog above the age of six months on their premises after the expiration of fifteen days from such date are liable to prosecution.

The sum of five shillings registration fee for each dog, may be paid at the Municipal Offices, Town Hall, Northcote.

H. CHAPPELL,
Acting Town Clerk.
Town Clerk's Office,
Northcote, 24th Feb., 1909.

TOWN OF NORTHCOTE.

TENDERS will be received until 4 p.m. on Monday, 15th March, for the following:—

1. The supply of 1000 cubic yards of handbroken Bluestone Metal in two contracts of 500 cubic yards each.

Special Improvement Mortgage Loan Works.

2. The construction of Langston Street. Plan 419.
3. The construction of lane or right-of-way, between Woolton Avenue and Shaftesbury Parade. Plan 418.

Plans and Specifications may be seen at the Municipal Offices.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

By Order,
W. G. SWIFT,
Town Clerk.
March 5, 1909.

TOWN OF NORTHCOTE.

SANITARY AND MEAT INSPECTOR.

Applications will be received until 12 noon on Saturday, the 20th inst., from persons qualified for the joint office of Sanitary and Meat Inspector to the Council of the Town of Northcote at a salary at the rate of £150 per annum.

Applicants must hold the certificate of Meat Inspector under the Meat Supervision Act.

Particulars of duties may be inspected at this office.

Personal canvass of Councillors will be deemed a disqualification.

By Order,
W. G. SWIFT,
Town Clerk.
Town Hall, Northcote,
March 5th, 1909.

TOWN OF NORTHCOTE.

OVERSEER OF WORKS.

Applications will be received until 12 noon on Saturday, the 20th inst., from persons competent to discharge duties of Overseer of Works to the Council of the Town of Northcote at a salary at the rate of £156 per annum.

Particulars of duties may be inspected at this office.

Personal canvass of Councillors will be deemed a disqualification.

By Order,
W. G. SWIFT,
Town Clerk.
Town Hall, Northcote,
March 5th, 1909.

Do not advertise and stop,
But advertise and stay!
For those who read your ad. last time
Will look for it to-day.

Mrs. Holland,

118-120-122
SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD.

Special Bargains in Millinery.

GREAT REDUCTIONS.

Trimmed Hats from 4/11.

THE PRESTON PHARMACY.

W. G. FEGENT

(late with Ford & Co., Toorak),

Successor to J. SLADE,

Pharmaceutical & Dispensing Chemist

257 HIGH STREET, PRESTON.

The Dispensing of Physicians' Prescriptions is a special branch of the Pharmacy. The greatest care is taken in the selection and testing of drugs. All dispensing is checked to ensure accuracy.

NOTE.

Records kept of all prescriptions dispensed since the establishment of the business in 1888.

HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES.

BOOTS MADE FOR YOU!

We Make Direct for the People.

Our Factory is manned with first-class labor and we use only good solid leather, consequently we can give to our customers a boot better in quality and lower in price than can be got elsewhere.

Our Patent Unbreakable Back Boot

(made only by us)
SPEAKS FOR ITSELF BY THE THOUSANDS WE SELL.
Our Prices for them now are:

Men's Box Derby Bals., 8/11	Boys' Box, strong wear, 10 to 13, 4/11
Men's knock-about Bals., 8/6	Youths' strong leather, 1 to 5, 4/11
Youths' Box, strong wear, 1 to 5, 6/6	Boys' strong leather, 10 to 13, 4/6

Many splendid-value lines in ordinary backs also.

All Lines to Measure at Retail Price. Boots sent to all parts of the country.

Bring your old boots to be made new. Repairs a leading factor

DIMMICK, Manufacturer & Retailer

245 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.

Every Business Man

Who has not a Standing Advertisemen. in this Paper is not giving his Business a fair chance.

T. E.

REDMOND,

Ironmonger, Crockery, Oil & Color Merchant,

410 High St., Northcote

Hanging Meat Safes.

Square and round.
One Quality—THE BEST.
4/6, 5/6, 6,9, 7/11, 9/6, 9/11 and 10/11.
Kerosene Stoves, 3/6, 4/11, 15/, 24/, &c.
Water Cans—Green, 1/, 1/4, 1/6, 1/11, 2/6, and 2/9.
Water Cans—Galvanised, 1/11, 2/3, 2/11, 3/3, 3/6, 4/11, &c.
Wire Window Screens, fit any window, 2/11.
Best Wire Doors, 8/11 and 10/11.
Fly Wire, Green and Galvanised, cheap.
½ inch Hose, 6d per foot.
Telephone 312 (Brunswick).

Stocktaking Sale

of

FANCY GOODS,
VASES,
GLASSWARE,
STATIONERY,
TOYS,
POST CARDS,
&c.

ALL ARTICLES GREATLY REDUCED.

FOR ONE MONTH ONLY.

Commencing Saturday, 13th March, at

A. LEWIS'S,

360 QUEEN'S PARADE, NORTH FITZROY.

Accountancy.

ERNEST J. NEILSON, ACCOUNTANT, BOOK KEEPER, and AUDITOR.

Books opened and kept (single and double entry).
Balance Sheets prepared.
Accounts Adjusted.
Income Tax Schedules Compiled.
Fifteen years' experience Commercial and Banking Methods.
Terms Arranged.
14 Lawry St., Northcote.

Houses & Land To Let.

BRUNSWICK.—New shop & dwelling, 6 rooms, business centre, 27/6. Shop and dwelling, corner position, 22/. Coburg.—Cottage, 5 rooms, nice order, 8/6. McGeorge Bros., Brunswick and Preston.

PRESTON.—Brick residence, 7 rooms, beautiful position, at station, 20/. Family villa, 7 rooms, fruit trees, 1½ acres, 17/6. Pretty brick villa, 7 rooms, best street, 13/6. Others, 13/6, 12/6, 10/. Shop, 4 rooms, 8/. McGeorge Bros.

FARM, Bundoora, near Preston, 100 acres. Grand cultivation property, light soil, securely fenced, 6 stall stable, no house; 12 months' lease; very nominal rental. Arrangements made to personally inspect with clients. McGeorge Bros., auctioneer, 858 Sydney Road, Brunswick, and High street, Preston.

THOMASTOWN.—Farm, 15 acres, splendid black soil, 4 roomed cottage, £32 10/ year. Apply Robertson, agent, Bell street, Preston.

Board & Residence

VACANCY for two respectable men as boarders. Mrs. Alexander, Milton street, South Preston.

Wanted

WOMAN, for cleaning. Apply 45 James street, Northcote, before 10 a.m.

CUTTER, experienced, for Whitework Factory. Salary 40/. Apply Monday, 9 a.m. to O. Gilpin, Normanby avenue, Upper Northcote.

MACHINIST, experienced, to act as assistant forewoman. Salary 25/. O. Gilpin, Normanby avenue, Northcote.

IF You are running an entertainment of any kind, be wise and ADVERTISE it thoroughly

Law.

MADDOCK, JAMIESON AND LONIE,
SOLICITORS AND CONVEYANCERS,
Market Buildings 445 Collins Street
MELBOURNE.

MADDEN, DRAKE & CANDY
SOLICITORS,
PROCTORS,
CONVEYANCERS,
436 COLLINS ST., MELBOURNE
(next to Scott's Hotel).
Tel 196.
Mr. R. Candy's private address—
88 Cunningham Street, Northcote.

HOME AND WILKINSON,
SOLICITORS,
CONVEYANCERS, &c.,
Commercial Union Chambers, 413 Collins Street, Melbourne.
Tel. 853.
W. J. HOME, Commissioner for Victoria.
A. S. WILKINSON. Private address—"Fylingdales," King William St., Preston
LOCAL OFFICE: McGeorge's Agency, High St., where Mr. Wilkinson will attend Tuesdays and Fridays from 8.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.

ROBERT G. BALL
(HENDERSON & BALL),
SOLICITORS, &c.,
Molesworth Chambers,
450 LITTLE COLLINS STREET
(Chancery Lane), MELBOURNE.
Private Residence—
"Landwor," Heidelberg Road, near Studley Road, Ivanhoe.
Tel. 973, City.

Dentists.

DENTISTRY.
T. WEBSTER,
L.D.S. (Licentiate of Dental Surgery)
M.A.C.D.
308 Queen's Parade, CLIFTON HILL.

AMERICAN DENTISTRY.
MR. ALEX. G. DE LACY,
R.D.S.,
Dentist,
Desires to inform the Residents of Northcote that he may be consulted at his private residence—
"TORONTO,"
MARTIN ST., NORTHCOTE.
Hours—8 a.m. to 9 a.m.
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Or by special appointment.
The Latest High-Class System of Dentistry at Lowest Fees.
Artificial Teeth, Upper or Lower Set, from £2 10/.
Painless Extraction of Teeth, 2/6.
City Address—
153 ELIZABETH ST.,
Between Bourke and Little Collins Streets, MELBOURNE.

Music.

NORTHCOTE SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
MRS. LEONARD BAKER
and
MISS HILDA BAKER,
OPPOSITE TOWN HALL, NORTHCOTE.
During 1908 fourteen pupils entered for examinations in four different grades, and all passed, two with honours.
Over 100 prizes in competitions.
Students prepared for examinations, &c.
Theory Class, Saturday, 6 to 7.
Terms on application.

MR. SIDNEY R. COLE, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., London;
10 years Professor and Examiner at the London Academy of Music; Licentiate, Royal Academy of Music London (Singing); Licentiate, Royal Academy of Music, London (Pianoforte); Associate, Royal College of Music, London (Pianoforte);
PROFESSOR of VOICE PRODUCTION, SINGING and PIANOFORTE.
Mr. Cole is the only musician in Australia holding the Specialist (L.R.A.M.) Diploma in Two Subjects, from the Royal Academy of Music, London.
Lessons given at the residence of Mr. E. Lees, "Talgarno," Clarke St., Northcote, and at Allan's, Collins St.

L. BRENNECKE
(Royal Cons., Cologne & Berlin),
VIOLIN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONY, and COUNTERPOINT.
1 PLOW ST. (opp. Thornbury Railway Station).

MISS QUEENIE PARKER
A.L.C.M.,
Receives and Visits Pupils for the PIANOFORTE.
Pupils prepared for London College, Conservatorium, &c., Exams.
"Norman," Waterloo Road, Northcote.

MISS M. V. MAGUIRE
(pupil of Mr W. A. Laver, University Conservatorium). Registered teacher of PIANOFORTE, THEORY, & HARMONY.
Pupils prepared for Matriculation and other Examinations.
Terms from £1 1s. Preston visited twice a week. Address—
182 High St. (opp. Town Hall), Northcote.

EDGAR B. SCHWAEBSCH,
Teacher of
PIANOFORTE.
Pupils prepared for Competitions and Examinations.
For Terms apply "Edgehill," 451 High St., Northcote.

MISS SADIE BROUGHTON,
A.T.C.L.
(Associate Trinity College, London)
PIANOFORTE, HARMONY, SINGING.
Pupils prepared Exams. and Competitions.
Last year Miss RUBY GROVES and Miss Ida Johnson passed Senior Honours, Trinity College, London, and Miss Nellie Anderson, Junior. 1907—In Competitions gained 10 firsts & 5 seconds, amongst whom Miss Ruby Groves, my successful Northcote player.
Terms on application—Sutton's, Bourke street, Melbourne; Albert St., Abbotsford.

J. E. RIPPER, PIANO and ORGAN BUILDER.
REPAIRS and TUNINGS a Speciality.
All Work Guaranteed.
Factory—271 Smith Street, Fitzroy.
Private address—6 Martin St., Northcote.

MRS. and MISS WHEELER,
Teachers
PIANOFORTE, SINGING, &c.
Also accept engagement Concert, Dances (Piano and Violin).
Address: 27 Lawry Street, Northcote.

Wanted to Sell.

BUILDING SAND, coarse or fine; also gravel and first-class garden soil; delivered in all suburbs. A. Strongman, Bell street, South Preston.

ORGAN, Bell, rich tone, 8 stops, knee swells, walnut, good as new, cheap. 66 Cramer street, Preston.

BUTCHER'S Order Cart, in good order, for sale, cheap. 10 Garnet street, Preston.

The Leader
JUSTICE TO ALL
Published Every Saturday Morning.
SATURDAY, MARCH 6.

DEAR GOLD!

A PUBLIC servant, it appears, must not call attention to any abuse, however grave, except he be officially asked to do so. Though he see practices going on inimical to the interests of his department, and which even threaten the welfare of the State, he must sit silent till the departmental head bids him open his mouth Let him do otherwise and he is reprimanded and snubbed. Such a fate has befallen Dr. A. A. Brown, of the Agricultural Department. Twenty years ago he visited the valley of the Ovens in the north-eastern part of our State. It was then a paradise of beauty and productiveness, the river flats being one long chain of orchards, vineyards, and rich cultivation paddocks. He returned there a few weeks back to find the place desolate—heaps of clay and tailings in place of happy and prosperous homesteads, all verdure gone, and the very waters of the river itself so befouled as to be undrinkable by cattle even. In the interval the dredgers had been at work, and for the temporary prosperity of a few had permanently ruined the resources of the district. Seeing these things Dr. Brown thought it right to bring them under the notice of the public, and to make a report to the Minister of Agriculture on the subject. The Minister, instead of applauding the action of a wise servant, asked if Dr. Brown had been asked to report officially on the subject. The reply from the Secretary for Agriculture was—"Dr. Brown was not asked to report, and he has been cautioned against a repitition of the offence." Such is the grand incentive our departments give their servants for displays of intelligence. It is estimated that the return from the dredges averages £500 per acre. Even so, this is dear gold, when the land destroyed would have gone on producing rich supplies of food for man and beast for centuries. This devastation does not apply to one river or one district. It has been going on all over the State, a glaring instance being the spoiling of the splendid Loddon River. While we have so many of our population eager to get land and leaving our State to procure it this wanton destruction of some of our richest areas goes on. Such administration of the national interests is a disgrace to the Legislature. Statesmanship is surely dead while such folly exists. Had there been more of Dr. Brown's foresight and patriotism controlling affairs it would have been worth eventual millions to the State. Since the publication of the report the new Minister of Mines has announced that he will not issue dredging leases for agricultural land. Snubbed though he has been, therefore, Dr. Brown has the satisfaction of knowing that he has "done the State some service."

Northcote has made its protest against the use of cement pipes in the sewerage of the town, but without avail. There has been an outcry in Brunswick, also apparently in vain. The next to move should be Preston for they are vitally interested, seeing that the chairman of the Metropolitan Board of works has told the Mayor of Northcote that when the branch sewer is taken to Oakover road to intercept the factory drainage the Board must have an undertaking that all acids which might have a deleterious effect on the pipes must be taken out of the drainage. Thus the local manufacturers must be put to this trouble and expense for all time for the sake of a little difference in the initial cost of the work. We could almost undertake to say that the factory owners would sooner put their hands in their own pockets and make up the difference. Vitrified stoneware pipes are admittedly acid proof and practically everlasting, then why not use them in such industrial centres as Preston? When the question was being discussed at the Northcote town council meeting on Monday evening Cr. Hayes declared that the carting of cement pipes from South Melbourne to Brunswick (the home of the stoneware pipe industry) for use in the local sewers seemed about the most idiotic thing he ever saw. He also stated that a Metropolitan Board employe had told him that the cement pipes actually would not stand carriage on the lorries. Cr. Plant said the council had done all it could, and it was now for the ratepayers to take the matter up and hold public meetings. Perhaps a combined deputation from, say, the Northcote, Preston, Brunswick and Coburg councils would have some weight with the Board. At any rate it would be well worth trying.

In response to an invitation from the ladies of Holy Trinity Church, Thornbury, a large number of parishioners attended a social evening in the guild hall on Tuesday last, and notwithstanding the great heat a very enjoyable evening was spent. The meeting had a two-fold purpose, viz., bringing together those who were not regular attendants to meet in social intercourse, and to endeavour to obtain their regular support to the church. The vicar occupied the chair, and short speeches were made by the mayor and Rev. A. B. Rowed. The mayor congratulated the Rev. T. C. Robinson on the work that had been accomplished during the short period he had been here and impressed upon his hearers the necessity of sticking together and helping their vicar, and wished them God speed in their work. The Rev. A. B. Rowed put before them the need of more support in a financial way, so that their vicar would be relieved of all care as far as finances were concerned. He instanced the noble benefactions that had been made amongst the Presbyterians, and called on all churchmen to do their utmost to help forward the work, and although there were no rich amongst us yet, if all did what they could the comparatively small debt would soon be wiped out. During the evening some excellent singing and music was heard, those assisting being Mrs Charge, Misses Gemmell, Collis, Walker, Messrs E. Howard, R. Bradley, H. Hutton, and a recitation by Miss Pearl Turner. Refreshments were handed round by the ladies, and a pleasant and sociable evening was concluded with the benediction, pronounced by the vicar.

Amongst the passengers by the R.M.S. China on Tuesday last was Dr. Isabel Wilkinson, of Preston, who is about to take a pleasure tour, accompanied by her mother, throughout Great Britain and the Continent, prior to her taking up duties as a Medical Missionary in China. Dr. Wilkinson was accorded an enthusiastic send off on Tuesday evening, 23rd inst., when some sixty of her fellow practitioners and friends wished her Bon Voyage and a successful career in her new work, and appreciatory addresses were given by Drs. Syme, Felix Meyer, Morley and others.

Madame Melba's direct gift of 1000 guineas to Australian charities is in magnificent contrast to the dole of a recent English singer, who, after gleaning up almost the last straws by holding a concert at popular prices at the Exhibition gave a concert at unpopular prices at the town hall for the charities. The result was poor, as might have been expected. But she, or her management, or both combined, had the incredible hardihood to get the amount bolstered up by a pound for pound subsidy from the Government! Was the like ever heard of? That singer on return here need not be surprised to find she has lost most of her popularity. Perhaps she wont need to come again though, for it was her boast that she took away £52,000 of Australian money.

Northcote children's annual excursion to the seaside takes place on Tuesday next 9th March, and is expected, weather permitting, to be a great success. Four special trains have been chartered to carry the excursionists and the place of holding is Mentone—Scudd's reserve—a place perfectly appointed for a picnic on a large scale, and close to a beautiful sandy beach, and also to the town baths. Patrons should have a really fine time, especially the children, for whom a good programme of sports for prizes has been arranged. It is notified that the committee will supply refreshments to all children under 16 years, and the system will be such on this occasion that no child will be missed. Prices of tickets and where to get them and starting times of trains are advertised elsewhere.

Mr. Geo. Smith Morison, of Siemens Bros. electricians, etc., one of the victims of the Sunshine disaster, seemed to have so far recovered from his terrible injuries that he hoped to be able to take up his work again at the beginning of this month. The presence of further pieces of splintered bone in the head and face has necessitated, however, a further and most serious operation at Dr. Bird's private hospital, which has given the patient a severe set back. However, he hopes soon to be on his feet again and coming back to reside in James street, Northcote.

Northcote Methodist Sunday School commence the celebration of their 55th anniversary on Sunday next, March 14, when three special services will be held, the preachers being the Rev. J. Nall, the Rev. C Tregear, and Mrs. Bride Barber. On the following Monday evening an important event in the history of the school takes place, namely the opening of the fine new school buildings, in the church grounds. There will be a concert (with appropriate addresses interspersed) on the occasion. The "scholars' night" will be on Tuesday, March 23rd.

This being the jubilee year of All Saints', Northcote, a special meeting of the parishioners is to be held in the parish hall on Thursday evening next to discuss the best way of celebrating the jubilee. It is hoped that before the year closes all existing debts on school and vicarage will be completely extinguished, and that ample provision will be made for the renovation of the church buildings and the erection of a mission church in the central part of the town.

A CAT'S WARNING.

WIFE'S PROMPT ACTION PROBABLY SAVES HER HUSBAND'S LIFE.

Shortly after 11 o'clock on Thursday morning a woman in a very excited state and almost out of breath from running called at the Collingwood Watchhouse, and requested Sergeant Murphy to send a telephone message to her husband, who was working at the Clifton Brickworks at Preston. When her agitation had somewhat subsided, she explained that her name was Gilligan, and that she resided at Abbotsford. In consequence of her husband working so far from home he always took his lunch with him. When preparing his lunch that morning she had placed in it some slices of German sausage. Between 10 and 11 o'clock she gave her cat a piece of the sausage, and a few minutes afterwards the cat died.

Being under the impression that the death of the cat was due to ptomaine poisoning, she resolved to at once go by train to Preston to prevent her husband from eating the sausage at the midday meal. Finding that the train would not arrive at Preston until after 1 o'clock, she next thought of sending a telegram, but fearing her husband would not receive it in time she ran to the watchhouse to send him a telephone message. Sergeant Murphy telephoned to the police at Preston, and was informed that a messenger would be immediately sent to the brickworks on a bicycle to warn Mr. Gilligan. On hearing the reply Mrs Gilligan warmly thanked the sergeant. Word was sent by the police, and Mr. Gilligan did not eat the sausage.

On returning home in the evening Gilligan took home the sausage he was to have eaten at his lunch and gave it to another cat. It also died.

Northcote's Thoroughfares.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—The Northcote council is to be congratulated upon having opened up a thoroughfare for the eastern portion of the town. I allude to the Victoria street extension to link up with Hammond street. It is to be hoped that at an early date this highway will be metalled and channelled from Westgarth street to Mansfield street in order to give ratepayers the full enjoyment of their rights.

Like the "Widening of Arthurton road" the "Opening up of Victoria street" has been before the council for about 20 years and it is marvellous that two such important questions should have been deferred for so long a time. Both are vitally concerned in the town's expansion. A less ambitious task is the opening up of Derby street through to Mitchell street, and the council would earn the gratitude of many east ward ratepayers by pushing on with this work.—Yours, etc.,

ERNEST LEES.

Shopkeepers and Public Holidays.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—The shopkeepers of Northcote are always perplexed when public holidays are proclaimed, as they do not know whether the majority of their neighbors intend to close their establishments or not. Cannot we meet on future occasions and discuss the question, or leave it in the hands of one to draw up a petition for each to sign, and state what he would be willing to do if the majority are in favor? Yours etc.,

L. G. SMITH, Draper.

[Note.—We understand that the feeling of shopkeepers has been tested with regard to Tuesday next (day of the town excursion) and that they are practically unanimous for closing and keeping holiday.—ED. L.]

High-Class Tailoring.

Of course, there are arguments in favor of low-grade tailoring, but what about the contra arguments? When a man considers both sides of the question he generally concludes that the low grade side of the question isn't worth much.

We have a 25 years' reputation for HIGH-CLASS TAILORING at REASONABLE PRICES.

GEORGE WARDROP,

THE GOOD-VALUE TAILOR,
CORNER SMITH and JOHNSTON STS, COLLINGWOOD.
Ring up 4498 for Patterns.

Localisms.

Northcote town excursion to Mentone takes place on Tuesday next, 9th inst.

Melba—the world's singer—opens her Australian tour in Melbourne town-hall next Tuesday night.

Three gold medals will be competed for at the Northcote children's excursion sports at Mentone on Tuesday.

New Preston Bowling Green is to be formally opened this afternoon at 3. The president (Lieut. Col. Braithwaite) and Mrs Braithwaite have issued invitations and a large company is expected.

The Rev. Bride Barber will preach on Sunday morning at the Methodist church, Northcote.

The Northcote town council on Monday evening unanimously decided to accept the offer of the Northcote South Ratepayers' Association to provide a children's playground, including a sand bath 30 x 15, a see saw and two swings at the Northcote Park.

There were 13 applications for the position of consulting tramway engineer to the Northcote town council. On Monday evening the council reduced these down to two and final choice was left with the mayor and the chairman of the tramway committee (Cr. Williams.)

Northcote South Ratepayers' Association have issued invitations for a musical evening for the 16th inst., programme arranged by Mr. H. Lachmund.

The Northcote town council is inviting applications for the joint office of sanitary and meat inspector at a salary of £150 per annum; also for an overseer of works at £156 per annum.

Don't miss the South Preston anniversary to-morrow. Come and hear the bright singing by the scholars. [Advt]

The annual meeting of the Preston Football Club is to be held at the shire hall, on Wednesday evening 24th March. Nominations for office must be in the hands of the secretary (Mr. W. H. Smith, c/o McGeorge Bros., High street, Preston), seven days prior to the meeting and must be signed by the candidate, proposer and seconder.

It is notified elsewhere that Mrs. Leonard Baker has now associated with her at the Northcote School of Music, Miss Hilda Baker. During 1908 14 pupils were entered for examination in four different grades and all passed, two with honors. The students have won over 100 prizes in competitions.

It is advertised that services in connection with the Preston Church of Christ are held in the Bradford hall every Sunday, also (for ladies), 2.30 Wednesdays.

Under the auspices of the Northcote Branch A.W.A. Mrs J. C. Robinson, M.A., is to give a lecturette on "Australian Poets" at the local town hall, on Monday, March 22nd. The lecture will be illustrated with recitals by the Misses Malmgren and songs by Miss Amy Caton, D.M.S.V. A very nice evening should be in store for those attending.

About sewerage fittings, paints, coppers, stoves, joinery, &c., look up the advertisement of A. Tharratt & Co., ironmongers, and timber merchants, High street, Northcote.

A social evening and concert in connection with All Saints', Preston, will take place at the shire hall, Preston, on Tuesday evening next, March 9. Amongst the artists expected to assist is Miss Ida Osborne, the favorable contralto.

The time for applications to be in for the position of inspector and lamplighter for Prestonshire has been extended to the 15th inst.

Preston shire council invite tenders, returnable up to 4 p.m. on Monday, 15th for the supply of 1000 yards of maintenance metal in four contracts.

A meeting of the committee in connection with the Preston Public Free and Lending Library fair is to be held in the library hall, Preston, on Thursday evening next, March 11. Ladies and gentlemen willing to assist are cordially invited to attend.

The first of a series of socials in connection with the Northcote Cycling club is to be held at the town hall, on Friday evening next, March 12. Particulars are advertised.

Best & Co., drapers, &c., Upper Northcote, announce the last week of their bargain fair, when special reductions will be made in all lines in order to effect a clearance to make room for new season's goods.

The employes of Messrs J. C. Hutton & Co. hold their first annual picnic at Mordialloc next Saturday, proceeding by special train, which leaves Bell street, at 8.30 a.m. and stops at Northcote, Clifton Hill, and Princes Bridge stations on the outward and return journeys. Tickets may be procured from the secretaries, Messrs Struth and White, at the following rates:—Adults, double, 8s; gent's single, 5s; lady's single, 4s; children under 14, 2s.

T. Henderson has brought his butcher's shop bang up-to-date with solid marble, nickled steel, and brass finishings. When weather permits he intends dressing his window in a style that will command attention.

The hon. secretary (Mr. Harold Hattam) informs us that the annual meeting of the Northcote Wednesday Football Club will be held shortly, at which the annual report and balance-sheet will be presented. In consequence of the Wednesday half holiday lapsing at the end of next month, we understand that it is not the intention of the league to continue the Wednesday fixtures, in which case the affairs of the local club will be finally wound up at the annual meeting.

Mrs and Miss Wheeler, of 27 Lawry street, Northcote, notify that they are prepared to give instruction in singing and the pianoforte and also accept engagements for concerts and dancing. In Northcote and elsewhere the public have often had the opportunity of enjoying the singing and playing of this musical family.

Messrs Hattam advertise that their establishment will be closed Tuesday (picnic day).

Slade's well-known pharmacy at Preston has changed hands, the purchaser being Mr. W. G. Fegent, late with Ford and Co., Toorak, and also five years with H. A. McKay, Hawthorn, where he had extensive experience. It is notified that the dispensing of physicans' prescriptions will be a special branch of the pharmacy, also that records are kept of all prescriptions dispensed since the establishment of the business in 1888.

A first class concert has been arranged in connection with the South Preston Methodist Sunday School anniversary on Monday evening next. Among the artists are Miss Rita Fitzgerald, the Misses W. and V. Warr and Messrs E. Watson and Rodgerson. [Advt].

A. Lewis, of Queen's parade, Clifton Hill, advertises a stock-taking sale of fancy goods, vases, glassware, stationery, toys, &c.

"Bright cricket" is advertised for to day at Croxton recreation reserve, when the match between Footscray and North Melbourne will be continued.

On Thursday evening next Clifton brickworks employes hold their concert, social, and presentation of prizes won at recent picnic.

The specials for to-day at F. G. Smith's drapery sale is men's, boys', girls', and ladies' ready to wear clothing.

The anniversary services in connection with South Preston Methodist S.S. will be held to-morrow, when the preachers will be the Rev. W. Williams, F.L.S., in the morning and the Rev. Horton Williams in the afternoon and evening. There will be special singing by the scholars. A concert will also be held in the church on Monday evening, March 8.

The anniversary of the South Preston Methodist Sunday School is being celebrated to-morrow by special services. The President of the Australasian General Conference, Rev. W. Williams, F.L.S., will be the morning preacher and Rev. Horton Williams afternoon and evening. A special feature will be the singing of the scholars under the conductorship of Mr. Von Mylius.—[Advt].

"Being up at 4 o'clock in the morning it was too dark to get the cows, so I went and did the pumping. When we had milked the cows we had breakfast and got ready. We were at the station in plenty of time to catch the first train."—Extract from Epping State School girl's essay on "Our Seaside Excursion," and which shows the effort the little country girl has to put forth to get to a picnic as compared with her town sister.

The Government statist writes forwarding vital statistics for Victoria for 1907-8. Marriages numbered 9,884 and births 31,101, which were 241 and 268 respectively below the totals for 1907, although both were above he averages for the previous five years. The deaths were 15,767 or 1925 more than the preceding year. About three fourths of this excess occurred during the hot spell of January.

Preston Citizen's Progressive Association.

The above met on Wednesday, February 3rd, Mr. McPherson in the chair. Mr. English opened the discussion re "Establishment of a National Rifle Range in Preston," remarking that he believed the old rifle range could be procured, or another spot more suitable, and that should the range become an accomplished fact it would benefit Preston considerably. Cr. Howe said he was in entire sympathy with the proposal. As captain of the Preston Rifle Club, he would most heartily support it, and as he had the honor of being a representative of the association and also on the advisory board with the Defence Department he would do his best, and briefly stated how Preston lost the old range, also that as the Port Melbourne range would only accommodate about 300 riflemen it was necessary that other ranges would have to be secured, more especially as they would soon have a universal Saturday half holiday, when possibly 1000 riflemen would want to shoot on that afternoon. Finally, Mr. English moved and Captain Howe seconded that a petition be signed by ratepayers asking the shire president to call a public meeting to deal with the matter. Mr. Ward strongly supported the motion, believing that if we could get the range here, the duplication of the line would be absolutely necessary, so that it was desirable for all ratepayers and citizens to work unitedly and bring the matter to a successful issue. A committee was appointed to act in conjunction with the rifle club to make all arrangements for meeting and speakers.

PRESTON'S EARLY HISTORY.

Mr. Hamilton was then introduced by the chairman and gave a very interesting paper, entitled "Early history and Progress of Preston." He commenced with a map pointing out the journey of Batman and showed that it was almost a certainty that the famous treaty took place in North Preston, and was included in the 600,000 acres now called Jika Jika. The Doutta Galla tribe numbered 45 members and Batman 15. Merri Creek was then called Leley's Creek. Mr. Jeffreys built the first house. Mr. Wood, Mr. Tylor and others came to Preston from England about 1849. Preston was then called Irishtown. Mr. Clinch and Mr. Wood, with others, held a meeting and it was changed to Preston, after the town in England. Regent street was named by Mr. I Barrow's father, after much rivalry. The Croxton Hotel used to be called the "Pilgrim's Progress," in the early days, and Mr. Clinch purchased the Preston park for recreation, and a very strong effort was made to unseat him in the council for wasting £180 on 4 acres for recreation purposes. Land at that time was worth and sold for £60 per acre. Mr. Clinch retained his seat by eight votes. Mr. Hamilton stated it seemed strange that no street was named after Mr. Clinch, after 50 years of active interest as citizen, magistrate, and councillor. As there were several streets duplicated it would be fitting to change the name of one and name it after Mr. Clinch. The paper was full of interest, and the second part will be given at a future meeting. A vote of thanks to Mr. Hamilton was moved by Mr. McDonald, who said that he would like his street to be called after Mr. Clinch, as it had its double in Preston, & would be more convenient for his tenants, seconded by Mr. Jeans and supported by members and the president and heartily carried. Mr. Hamilton suitably replied.

NEW CENTRAL WARD REPRESENTATIVE.

CR. H. BASTINGS INTRODUCED.

Before business was commenced at the Northcote town council meeting on Monday evening, Cr. Williams, the returning officer, said it was his pleasing duty to introduce the newly elected member for the central ward. He supposed it was scarcely necessary to personally introduce Cr. Bastings, as he understood he had lived in Northcote all his life. The name of Bastings had been honorably associated with municipal life ever since the inception of local government, or for nearly half a century, and their new councillor, being anxious to perpetuate that name, has followed in the footsteps of his grandsire. He had gained the election by 46 votes; it was therefore evident that he had the confidence of a good majority of the electors. He (the returning officer) felt that Cr. Bastings would be an acquisition to the council, for he knew him as a keen business man, a man of intelligence, and a fluent and forcible speaker, and whose qualifications in the latter respect would help to lift the debates of the council to a higher plane.

The mayor said that on behalf of his colleagues and himself he was very pleased to extend to Cr. Bastings a hearty welcome, both for his own sake and for the sake of his predecessor in the seat He was sure that Cr. Bastings would fully justify all the high hopes entertained of him.

Cr. Bastings said he had to thank Cr. Williams and the mayor for their hearty welcome and also for their kind references to ex-Cr. Bastings, of whose career, as he had told the public, he was very proud. The name had formerly stood for the "father" of the council, it had now to stand for the youngest member of it. He intended to work with his colleagues to promote the best interests of the town. He had always taken an interest in the town's affairs, and now he had been honoured with a seat in the council he intended to pursue that hobby further. He would always be prepared to fight hard for what he deemed the right thing, but would never carry any feeling outside the chamber.

Subsequently the toast of Cr. Bastings' health was honored in the mayor's room, being proposed by Cr. McIntosh and supported by Crs. Smith and Plant. The compliment was suitably acknowledged.

Star of Northcote Tent.

The quarterly meeting was held on Thursday evening. There was a big muster of members, and after the meeting had been opened by the C.R., Bro. Auty, Bro. J. G. Membrey, who, at the last annual conference was elected a Director of the Order in Victoria, was given a hearty welcome and given charge of the meeting for the evening. A report of the fancy fair committee was given, which showed that the committee were making a big effort to make the fair a success Bros. Dyson and Thomson were elected secretaries for the fair. Bro. Nownham gave a report of the annual meeting held in Castlemaine in February last. The report showed that the meeting was a great success. Bro. J. C. Nownham was appointed tent representative on the district council. The gymnasium club decided to open for the coming season on Wednesday, the 10th inst. Reports of dispensary delegates were received, and in connection with the Clifton Hill dispensary the report showed that a levee of 3d per member per quarter had been struck towards providing funds for the purchase of land for the erection of a new dispensary. Re the formation of a football club in connection with the tent it was decided to hold a meeting on Wednesday evening next. Five new members were elected and seven were proposed.

Order your Summer Suit NOW!

Men who are tailored elsewhere always admire the set of our clothes because they imagine they must have come from an expensive tailor's. When they learn our prices they are surprised how it can be done for the money—but we do it, though it's too long a story to tell here.

T. TREVENA,

THE RELIABLE TAILOR,
SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD.
The Very Latest in Summer Fancy Vests.

WEAR A KING HAT!

A HAT that you can depend upon to give you real honest service—a Hat that is guaranteed by Practical Hatters—a Hat that has Quality, Shapeliness, Style.
"THE KING," 8/6 to 10/6.
Obtainable only from
T. TREVENA, THE HAT KING,
Telephone 410, City.

The Shaftesbury Parade Right-of-way.

APOLOGY RE THE LETTER OF PROTEST.

REPORT OF MEMBERS OF THE WORKS COMMITTEE.

At the meeting of the Northcote town council on Monday evening a letter was received from William Scott, Shaftesbury parade, apologising for a mistake he had made in not sending the original signatures to the protest they had made with reference to the manner in which the right-of-way was being constructed at the rear of their properties. He had not the slightest intention of treating the council with any discourtesy. At first they wrote a letter to the local paper, but, unfortunately, owing to want of space, it had to be held over to the following week. As by this week's delay the difficulty of detecting the faults (as they considered) and the deviations from specifications (as they were certain of) were greatly augmented by the spreading of large quantities of sand over the pitchers, almost entirely hiding them from view. Therefore they decided to write direct and the protest was drafted, approved by the contributories, and signed by as many of them as could be seen, and a clean copy, instead of the crumpled and not very presentable original, forwarded to the council. To show exactly what the contributories thought of the work a letter bearing 15 of their signatures was now forwarded. Only one of all who were asked to sign the letter refused to do so. He might say that since the rain of the 24th the defects pointed out had again become visible. The contractors had not made any attempt to remedy them, and seemed determined to defy them.

Cr. Plant said he had been given to understand that the reason given in this letter for not sending the original letter to the council was not the true reason.

The mayor said that Mr. Scott had said on the occasion of the visit of the public works committee to the right-of-way that he could not trust the council with the original letter. Later on Mr. Scott tendered him the original letter, but he (the mayor) had told him that it was not his province to receive the letter.

Cr. Robb (to the mayor)—You said to Mr. Scott "Would you not trust us with the letter?" and he impulsively said "No." You put the words into his mouth.

The mayor—I deny that emphatically.

Cr. Bainbridge said that to his mind the mayor's version of the incident was the correct one.

The mayor—Thank you.

Cr. Hayes said that when on the occasion of the public works committee's visit to the right-of-way he heard that Mr Scott had said he could not trust the council with the original letter he felt like throwing the whole job up. He would like to point out that it was the particular desire of the surveyor that they should inspect the right of way on the morning following last council meeting, but it was at the request of Cr. Robb that the visit was delayed till the Wednesday morning.

Cr. Robb rose to speak again and a point of order was raised.

The mayor—You must move something.

Cr. Robb—Then I move that the apology be accepted. If a man makes a mistake and has the courage to come and admit it, it is only fair to accept it.

The mayor—The reason he gives is in direct contradiction to my statement, so I can't accept your motion.

Cr. Robb—Oh! very well, I'm done then.

The right-of-way matter was subsequently revived when a report was presented by the works committee, as follows:—"The town surveyor reported that before the work is passed he will instruct the contractor to have the work cleared off and all unreasonable joints closed up."

Cr. Hayes moved the adoption of the report.

Cr. Robb said he hoped that this would be carried out faithfully and that the engineer would see that the work was not slummed over. They knew the work had been covered up and could not be seen now. The morning they visited it they found two or three inches of sand had been put over it. He hoped that in the future right-of-ways would be inspected before the sand was put on.

Cr. Hayes said the right-of-way would have been inspected on the Tuesday morning but for Cr. Robb, one of the reasons he gave for the delay being that the gentleman who was making the complaints could not be present on the Tuesday morning.

Cr. Robb—The reason I gave was purely a private one.

Cr. Hayes—That was one reason You gave a private reason also.

Cr. Harry said that as far as the putting in of spalls was concerned, they could not see in several cases whether they were used or not, as the work was covered up. As far as the spaces between the pitchers was concerned, he did not think there was much to complain about. As for the sand used, if they got as good on all the right-of-ways, with perhaps the exception of one load, they would have no reason to complain. But the pitching they saw being done was bad. The man did not seem to have the common sense to make a good job even while they were looking at him. He was certainly not studying the interests of his employer. The other setter lower down was a good man.

Cr. Plant asked if Cr. Hayes endorsed what Cr. Harry had to say as to the sand and the joints.

Cr. Hayes—The sand was good, but the work the pitcher setter was doing might have been better.

The report was then adopted.

NORTHCOTE POLICE COURT.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22.

DEBT.

Edwards and Howard v. S. Dyke. Work and labor done and material supplied £2 2s 8d. Mr. Lonie (Maddock, Jamieson and Lonie) for plaintiff. Order for amount with 18s costs.

RENT.

Stott and Bastings v. Ah Fang. Rent due for laundry premises, High street, £2 10s. Order for amount. Defendant did not appear.

TRUANCY CASES.

The truant inspector obtained verdicts against the following:—Mrs Bryan 4s (2 cases), Mrs Fyfe 4s (2 cases), Mrs Renout 4s (2 cases).

THE PITFALL

By SIR WILLIAM MAGNAY, Bart.,
Author of "The Master Spirit," "The Red Chancellor," "A Prince of Lovers," etc.

Published by Arrangement with Ward, Lock & Co. Ltd., Melb. & Lon.

CHAPTER XIII.

Danger for Kiliotis of Smyrna.

The Baron made no attempt to follow him. Whatever annoyance or mortification he may have felt, he showed none. He seemed, on the contrary, inclined to treat the episode with a certain sneering amusement.

"These so-called, self-styled experts will go to any lengths in order to insist on the superiority of their knowledge by proclaiming an amateur's ignorance. Now, could anything be more preposterous than the fellow's assertion that this figure is a modern work of art?"

"I must say," replied the Professor, with a puzzled expression, "that although the figure to my view has a certain modernity about it, it is practically impossible to reconcile the idea with the fact of its lying buried yonder."

"It is altogether inconceivable," the Baron declared vehemently. "With what object could it have been lately buried there? To make a fool of us? An expensive joke. And I tell you the earth where I found it could not have been disturbed for centuries; not since the convulsion which buried the greater part of the castle."

"One cannot believe otherwise," Professor Chilworth agreed, still mystified.

"Bah!" The Baron grew witheringly scornful. "The fellow's object is plain enough. He wants to throw disrepute upon our work that he may have the field to himself. But he shall do neither the one nor the other if I can help it."

There was the ugly look of a threat about his mouth as he spoke the last words and, turning, went off with purposeful strides towards the ruins.

"Shall we go after him and see the fun?" Tilghman presently suggested in a low tone to his friend.

Dalray nodded, and with a jocular word of explanation they strolled after de Gastard.

"What do you think of the business?" Dalray asked.

"Knowing what we know, I should say that the Greek expert is right, and so it points to a trick of our friend the Baron. Although as to what its actual bearing or object may be I am not yet quite clear."

"I fancy the new arrival has rather upset the Baron."

"Naturally. He is evidently a sharp fellow, and very wide awake. Well, we may leave it to them to fight out the situation. I should say the little Greek can take care of himself."

They had now reached the entrance to the excavated gallery which from that point ran downwards under the almost buried ruins. At a short distance inside, the narrow passage opened out into a roughly circular chamber, from which branched in various directions other passages running under the ruins and which had evidently been made experimentally in the course of several searches for buried treasure.

From one of these a light shone and voices proceeded. Tilghman held up his hand, and they stopped before advancing into the larger chamber. If they expected to hear the two quarrelling they were mistaken. The Baron, in his metallic, equable voice, was speaking quite blandly.

"On the contrary," he was saying, "it will give us much gratification to have your co-operation in this work. You see how far we have gone; but that is nothing to what remains to be done. And it is more than a small party of enthusiasts like ourselves can hope ever to get to the end of. Yes; I am glad to welcome you, M. Kiliotis, and you may rely upon all the guidance and help we can give you."

His tone was so strangely suave that the two listeners involuntarily turned and looked at each other in the semi-darkness with expressions of knowing amusement.

The Greek was now speaking. "It gives me pleasure to hear that M. le Baron," he replied in his rather high-pitched voice. "The more so that from your late manner I had reason to doubt my welcome."

"I had the natural wish to assure myself that you were duly accredited," was the plausible excuse. "Pray pardon any ungraciousness of which I may have been guilty."

"I do not easily take offence," the merchant assured him with a laugh. "So we co-operate in this work, M. le Baron—I and your party?"

"Certainly. You see how much in the way of excavating I have already done. You are welcome to the advantage that gives. You will set to work now?"

"Immediately, if you please. As a man of business I cannot afford to waste time."

"Naturally. It was in here, in that corner, by the way, that I found the silver figure which you so unaccountably throw doubts upon."

"I do not understand how it came here," replied the Greek with tactful evasion. "Perhaps," he added with a laugh, "I shall come across its fellow; who knows?"

As the talk stopped Tilghman touched Dalray, and the two went quietly back into the open.

"I think," said Tilghman, when, towards evening, they were making their way down to the harbor together, "our best plan is, for the present at any rate, to leave those two worthies together to fight the situation out between them."

"You think it will come to a fight then?" Dalray suggested.

"I am sure of it," Tilghman answered in a tone of conviction. "The two are absolutely antagonistic, and it must come to a fight, a deadly struggle, or I am much mistaken. Shall I tell you my idea?"

"Do."

"It is that this Greek dealer has got scent of treasure to be found on this island. You recollect poor Rainger's account of the uncut ruby he found on the dead man Malanos, and which he subsequently had to sell in Smyrna? This fellow says he comes from there. He is possibly the very man who bought it, or at any rate he has heard of it and also, no doubt, of the unusual quantity of such stones that has been lately thrown upon the markets. Anyhow, not exactly believing in the Baron's scientific enthusiasm, he is putting two and two together."

"And the result——?"

"Will, I fear, be distinctly unpleasant for M. Kiliotis, dealer of antiques, of Smyrna, unless he was born under a lucky star or has a peculiar genius for taking care of himself."

"Yes," Dalray observed reflectively, "the Baron is not the man to brook interference."

"Is it likely? Why should he share his Tom Tiddler's ground? And that is obviously what the little Greek is after. He is a smart man of business. He knows too much, and in my opinion has been a fool to show it."

"Unfortunately the business instinct and habit are irrepressible."

"Yes; and here, as I say, their exhibition means danger. Just think what it would mean to the Baron if this man should discover his secret, the secret of which we are morally certain. The source of his immense wealth would be known and stopped, in addition to which the Turkish Government, always ready and greedy, would come down upon him with a crushing claim."

"So it is a matter of life and death," commented Dalray. "I begin to be rather sorry for Kiliotis of Smyrna."

Tilghman laughed. "We might be sorry for ourselves, my dear fellow, if our intentions, so far as treasure-seeking goes, were not above suspicion. We, happily, are under no particular necessity to grub about for gems. It is true you have come to carry off a treasure of another sort which the Baron covets, but I daresay he considers himself your equal in open fight there."

Dalray gave a little defiant laugh. "In that connection I have found out something to-day."

"Yes?"

"That the girl is afraid of him, or something very like it."

"That is unpleasant, but I am scarcely surprised to hear it," said Tilghman gravely. "That sort of man usually plays the card of terrorising."

"He won't if I can help it," Dalray declared resolutely.

"No. Luckily his methods cannot go very far. I think we know enough to join issue, and with some prospect of success should he try to put the screw on. He little dreams what Rainger left behind him."

They had now reached the harbor. "Hullo, whom have we here?" Tilghman said, as an unfamiliar figure appeared advancing through the few wretched loungers on the quay-side.

A tall man with regular features and a short, black beard, attired in the undress uniform of a Turkish official, and carrying a certain air of power and importance. He came towards the two men with an easy, and at the same time business-like, stride, and as he passed stared at them curiously, searchingly, with a certain air of being justified by authority. As they stood waiting for the boat to take them off to the yacht the man, having gone some fifty paces beyond them, stopped, swung round on his heel, and came back.

Before he reached them both men felt sure of his intention to stop and address them.

CHAPTER XIV.

In the Galleries.

"Pardon, gentlemen," he said, with a bow and a salute, "you can perhaps enlighten me. It is possible that you are of the party of the Baron de Gastard?"

"We know the Baron," Tilghman answered. "And have been taking part in his work of excavation."

"Ah!" The Turk emitted the exclamation with wide-open mouth and a curious expression in his eyes. He evidently had a way of farcically distorting a cast of countenance which in repose was quite dignified. "The Baron makes great progress, then, with his excavations?"

"Fairly good, I should say," was the guarded answer.

"He is an enthusiast? He comes here often?"

"I do not know. This is my first visit."

"And your friend's?" The Turk urbanely indicated Dalray.

"And mine also."

The Turk accepted the assurance with a bow. "Your friend the Baron—pardon my questions—" he proceeded, "he finds much to reward his—enthusiasm?" There was a decided sneer in the last word.

"He unearthed a small silver statue to-day," Tilghman answered, wondering whither the interrogations tended.

"Indeed!" The Turk made another grimace. "That should be a prize. Tell me, how many work here; you two gentlemen and the Baron?"

"A Professor Chilworth is here with his daughter——"

"English? Yes?"

"English. And to-day there arrived a dealer in antiques from Smyrna who proposes to explore presumably on his own account."

"So?" The Turk's face darkened; his expression becoming almost threatening. "A dealer from Smyrna, eh?" he repeated reflectively. "I wonder what brings him here."

"The chance of finding art treasures," Dalray suggested.

"Ah!" Their questioner seemed hardly disposed to accept the explanation. After a few seconds' abstraction he roused himself to a polite acknowledgment. "I am your servant, gentlemen, and give you my best thanks for your information. You see, I am a stranger here. Perhaps—indeed, I hope—we may be better acquainted. I wish you good evening." And with a ceremonious bow to each he departed.

"What do you make of him?" Dalray asked.

"I hardly know for the moment," Tilghman replied. "Except I fancy the Baron has been overdoing things and has roused suspicion in other minds besides that of M. Kiliotis."

"Anyhow these unexpected arrivals promise serious complications, eh?"

"Yes. And what we have to do is to take care to keep out of it, and at the same time to watch keenly and learn all we can. I believe the Baron to be a criminal, and capable of anything, and it is manifestly our duty, knowing as much as we do, to protect at least the Chilworths. Here is our boat."

Next morning they were early ashore, but not before Kiliotis, whom they found already prospecting. He greeted them with the glib suavity of his kind; it was evident from his manner that he drew a distinction between them and the Baron, which was at least gratifying.

After a few common-place remarks Tilghman brought up the subject of the silver statuette, and asked the Greek whether he was absolutely sure it was modern. Kiliotis scouted the idea that any doubt could exist about it in an expert's mind.

"Why and by whom it was placed to be found here," he continued with the shrug of a man who means to keep his opinion to himself, "I cannot say. It is no business of mine. But whoever played the practical joke was guilty of an oversight in not taking pains to remove certain marks and signs which stamp the place as modern. Five or six weeks old!" He laughed derisively at the idea. Then suddenly composed his countenance and with a sharp look of inquiry asked: "Can you tell me whether the Baron has found any more of those specimens of ancient art?"

"Not that we know of," Tilghman answered. "At least, not of that kind. Carvings and stone statuary——"

"Ah, yes." The dealer interrupted them almost contemptuously. "We know of them. We have heard that the Baron has a fine taste for alto and basso relievo. Well, I must not waste time in discussing other men's fancies when my own remain unsatisfied." And with a bow he turned to his investigations.

"Now," said Tilghman, as he led the way down, "I am going to explore underground. That is obviously where the mystery lies. We are all pretty much on the same footing here, and if the Baron objects, why, we simply draw our own conclusions."

Arrived at the opening, they lighted a lamp with which they had provided themselves and proceeded to explore one after another the various galleries running from the larger chamber which formed a vestibule. These were all of comparatively recent excavation, and differed very much in length, some going back but a few feet, while others penetrated for a considerable distance into the buried ruins. In these the crumbled walls of the old castle were seen mingled with the earth in which they had been engulfed. One passage led through a narrow, tortuous opening into a large chamber, which must have been one of the rooms of the castle. But, save indications of broken carving here and there, the galleries and chambers seemed to offer little interest.

"No sign of treasure here," Dalray remarked as they surveyed the large room, dank and noxious after its ages of burial.

"No," Tilghman replied, with a shiver. "And yet there must be something of the sort hidden not far away. I don't think we need stay here now. The air is scarcely breathable, and, after all, the treasure is not what we are after."

After another cursory glance round, they began to retrace their steps along the narrow winding passage. When they had gone about half-way, Tilghman, who was in front, held up his hand and stopped.

"Listen!" he said, under his breath.

In front of them, presumably in the vestibule, voices were heard. Tilghman made a sign. They set down their lamps and quietly crept forward. A few steps brought them in sight of the glimmer of a lamp. They could hear the voices distinctly now, and as they paused and listened, they could tell that one was the Baron's and the other that of the Turkish official who had accosted them on the quay the evening before. Very warily now they went forward till they could plainly distinguish the words.

CHAPTER XV.

A Dark Bargain.

"M. le Baron will perhaps allow me," the Turk was saying suavely, "being at the same time assured of my most distinguished consideration for his person and his position—allow me to state quite simply certain facts which have come to the official knowledge of the Bureau to which I have the honor to belong."

"By all means, Effendim," responded the Baron in his higher-pitched voice.

"To come to the point at once," proceeded the Turk, "since no man would wish to waste time on this dreary island, may I intimate there is an idea that more is to be found here than mere ancient statuary and artistic relics."

"I do not exactly understand your Excellency," said the Baron quietly.

"No?" The monosyllable suggested polite incredulity. "I shall be happy to speak more plainly. There appears to be—shall I say a rumor?—that valuables in the form of jewels are to be—or, at least, have been—unearthed here."

"I was unaware of it."

The Baron's statement might be taken as referring either to the rumor or the fact.

"So?" Once more an urbane credulity mingled with surprise. "It is thought that M. le Baron de Gastard would be in a position to know more of the truth than any one else."

"Indeed? I fear your Excellency's information is wrong." The Baron's tone was sharper now. "But," he continued blandly, "here are the ruins, at your Excellency's disposal. You have a perfect opportunity of satisfying yourself and proving whether rumor speaks truth or a lie."

"M. le Baron is pleased to suggest a troublesome way."

The Turk's voice suggested the accompaniment of a significant look.

"I shall be happy to place my own hands and those of my party at your Excellency's disposal," de Gastard replied with cool evasion.

There was a few moments' silence. Tilghman crept forward till he could just see the two men, the dark passage in which he stood keeping him invisible. They were seated facing one another on a couple of old boxes in which the Baron's excavating tools had been packed. Both were smoking, the Baron a cigar, the Turk a cigarette. There was just enough light to let them see each other.

The pause appeared to be occasioned by the Turk's stopping to light a fresh cigarette. The glow illuminated for a moment his handsome and, just then, impassive features. He was assuredly a strong man, and a match for the Baron at his own game.

An intense curiosity took hold of Tilghman to see how the strange contest would end.

"My dear Baron"—the Turk's tone was changed now; it expressed a friendly and sagacious remonstrance with, perhaps, a touch of the suggestion of a powerful will behind it—"is all this word-play necessary between men like you and me; men who at the first salute should intuitively understand each other perfectly, as pardon me, I believe we do? On the contrary, it is, like all waste, foolish. Shall we not come to business at once?"

"Your Excellency," returned the Baron quietly, "is pleased to give me more credit than I can claim in assuming my penetration equals his own I fear I am very dull, but I must confess your Excellency's meaning is hidden from me."

"Then," replied the Turk with a stronger vibration in his tone, "I will discover it to you, my good friend, without further waste of time. An official may stand with the world as synonomous with a fool, but sometimes there comes an exception. And as an illustration I, an Administrator of Provinces, am clever enough to comprehend that the notorious wealth of the Baron de Gastard, who a few years since was a poor man, is not derived from the artistic remains, interesting no doubt, of the Castle of the Knights of St. Christopher."

"I have never asserted anything so foolish," retorted the Baron, coolly smiling, "nor expected any one to believe it."

"I should not," said the Turk, lighting another cigarette, "charge you with anything so foolish. At the same time I am, to speak plainly, perfectly well aware that your enthusiasm for the recovery of ancient statuary is merely a blind to cover your search for more valuable and less cumbersome treasure."

"Then," replied de Gastard, "you know more than I."

"You deny it, Baron?"

The politeness had gone from their voices now.

"Certainly."

"Perhaps I can prove it."

"That would be remarkable. I should like to see the proof."

The Baron's tone was, considering all things, the listener thought, amazingly steady.

"The proof that more is known of your proceedings than you suppose? Yes. It should not be difficult to convince you."

"I can assure you you rouse my curiosity."

"Let me proceed to gratify it." The Turk grinned, maliciously confident, showing his remarkably white teeth. "Since the time when you first obtained our official permit to excavate on this island a large quantity of exceedingly valuable gems, cut and uncut, polished and unpolished, have been disposed of in the various European marts. Of that I have full and official cognisance. It is at least singular. You agree with me?"

"Singular, perhaps; certainly a far-fetched coincidence," answered the Baron calmly.

The Turk lighted yet another cigarette. "I go further. I have reason to know that in nearly, if not quite, all of these instances, the extraordinary sales were effected by the Baron de Gastard or his agents. A coincidence?"

"A lie."

The Turk merely shrugged his shoulders, as deprecating the quietly-spoken word without sign of offence.

"By no means. But we will let that pass for the moment as a difference of opinion. I proceed."

The watchers could see, even in that semi-obscurity, that the Baron's eyes, in spite of his assumed calmness, blazed with an evil light as he faced his adversary. They were the eyes of a man found out, cornered and at bay.

"If you think it worth while."

The Turk smiled sardonically. "I incline to that view, and hope to retain your interest in the points I urge."

The Baron nodded carelessly.

"On your first visit to this island," continued the other, "you were accompanied by two friends—I use the word in its wider sense—a Greek of a somewhat unenviable reputation named Malanos, and an Englishman named Rainger. Where are those men now?"

"I wait for your Excellency to inform me," was the evasive reply.

"I will do so," returned the Turk, speaking with great point and deliberation. "They are both dead." Then very softly he murmured, "Again a coincidence?"

The Baron ignored the deft hit. "I know nothing of these men's fate. But it is not unlikely. They both turned out worthless fellows. They deserted me."

"For a better world, where some of us are told our treasure should be?" quietly suggested the Turk with his sarcastic grin. Then with a return to his business-like tone he added, "May I invite you, Baron, to prove my suggestion wrong by informing me of the real source of your sudden wealth?"

"It is," returned the Baron coolly, though with a certain restrained viciousness, "hardly to be expected that I should confide my private affairs to a stranger. And your Excellency will pardon my suggestion that it savors of impertinence to expect it."

The Turk tossed away the end of his cigarette and rose.

"Perhaps," he rejoined, assuming an authoritative manner; "although I asked, I did not expect it."

"Is your Excellency pleased to make an end of this conversation?" the Baron inquired blandly. "May I resume my work?"

"No, Baron, you may not resume it." The Turk's voice was so suddenly loud and peremptory that the listeners started. "Owing to your unsatisfactory answers to my interrogatories I take upon myself, as is my plain duty, to rescind your permit, and order you and your friends to quit this island within six hours."

As he turned away he did not see the gentle smile of evil which stole over the Baron's face.

"The matter being in your Excellency's hands," he said, in a suavely arresting tone, "you will doubtless allow me to pay you as the representative of the Sultan's Government for the privilege of continuing my operations here."

The Turk faced quietly round. "So you are disposed to talk business at last," he remarked, with a slightly exulting inflection. "You might have recognised, Baron, that it was your only course. I hold the key of the situation."

The Baron bowed.

"Now shall we come to terms?" said the Turk.

"If your Excellency will formulate your views."

"In a few words," was the ready reply. "We shall share equally in what the place contains."

The Baron gave a deprecating shrug. "Alas! I fear the store is exhausted. It was never so great as one might suppose. But money makes money, you understand, and with luck a moderate capital may be ten times doubled and so expand into wealth, as mine has."

The Turk was eyeing the Baron keenly.

"If the store has given out why are you still here?"

The natural question was put searchingly.

"In the hope of lighting upon another," came the prompt explanation. "But up to now my efforts have been fruitless."

"Yet you are anxious—you will pay to remain."

"The chance may be worth it."

"Worth what?"

"Five thousand pounds, Excellency."

"You shall give me ten," said the Turk.

"Ten thousand pounds for perhaps nothing," protested the Baron.

"On account of what you have already taken of the Sultan's property," was the uncompromising rejoinder. "A bagatelle compared with what my Government would demand were I to open my mouth."

The Baron made a gesture of helplessness.

"If it must be," he said. "But you are taxing my subsequent speculations. Ten thousand pounds. You shall have it."

"I said twenty, did I not? I meant to," the Turk declared, his eyes ablaze with greed.

"Twenty thousand! It is monstrous, beyond all reason."

"It is better than confiscation and imprisonment, with a prospect of the bowstring," the Turk retorted. "It is twenty thousand I mean to have. Not a scudi less. Tschut, man! It is nothing to you."

"It is very much to me," differed the Baron. "But you shall have it."

And with the dark business thus settled, they went out into the light.

CHAPTER XVI.

Turk and Greek.

Tilghman and Dalray, by waiting their opportunity, were able, fortunately, to make their way out of the tunnel unperceived by de Gastard or the Turk who had joined the Chilworths at some distance away. Aided by the broken ground, the two friends worked their way round to the party so as to make it appear they had come from another direction.

"It is just as well that the Baron did not stay underground and find us there," Tilghman observed, as they crept along.

"Our lives might be in jeopardy, eh?"

"Decidedly, if he had an idea how much we know. We may be pretty sure of his methods. And I tell you what, my dear Hugh."

"Yes?"

"I would not buy that magnificent blackmailing Turk's life at a week's purchase."

"Ah! You think he will not be content with the twenty thousand pounds?"

Tilghman laughed. "It is not an arrangement likely to satisfy either party. The Turk knows too much, and will be a constant terror to the Baron—as long as he lives." He spoke the last words with grim significance. "No," he continued, "there was something dangerously suspicious in his ready agreement. The Turk is a doomed man."

"And no fool either."

"No. But he is too self-confident in his official position, and overrates his hold upon a man like de Gastard. Well, we shall see."

"And in the meantime our surmises and Rainger's story are confirmed."

"Absolutely. So we are more than justified in watching the Baron and standing ready to protect Miss Chilworth from his designs, which, like his character, will scarcely bear thinking of."

They now drew near to the rest of the party, to be rallied by the Baron for their presumed slackness in getting to work.

The Turk was deeply engaged in what seemed an insinuating talk with Huberta Chilworth. It was not surprising, for she was looking lovely. Dalray noticed with considerable satisfaction that she did not seem inclined to favor her companion more than politeness demanded. Indeed it was with something of relief that she turned aside and nodded a greeting to the young men as they drew near.

The Baron then made a point of calling off the Turk ostensibly for the purpose of introducing him, which he did by the name of Rassim Bey.

Taking their cue from the Turk, whose demeanor was politely implacable, they made no allusion to their having spoken together on the previous evening, and after the exchange of a few commonplaces Rassim turned his attention again to Miss Chilworth.

The coming of the Turk seemed effectually to demoralise the work of the whole party. The man's personality was strong, and it was felt to be in conflict with the other masterful character. Little real work was done that day. The Baron absented himself in the underground galleries less than usual. It was evident he was watching the Turk with a jealous eye. Rassim, on the other hand, took little notice of the Baron; rather maintaining towards him an attitude of secure indifference. Obviously he was immensely attracted by Huberta Chilworth, and it was equally plain that his insinuating attentions caused her considerable embarrassment. There was comfort in this for Dalray who, for the moment, was ousted and kept at a distance; on the whole, however, he regarded this man's attentions as less dangerously objectionable than those of the Baron.

So the day passed in more or less desultory employment, its dulness being, however, relieved towards the close by a striking incident.

As they were preparing to start for the harbor Kiliotis appeared from the tunnel. Tilghman, watching de Gastard, saw a quick look of annoyance cross his face as he turned quickly to the Turk and, drawing him aside, spoke to him in a low voice. Rassim nodded appreciatively as he listened, and then, with a laughing remark, went forward with his official stride to intercept Kiliotis, who, noticing the party with a confident salute, was about to climb the ascent from the ravine.

"You must not explore here," he said with a curt peremptoriness, and with a gesture of dismission.

Kiliotis, who had slackened his pace, turned and faced him boldly. "Pardon, Effendim," he returned confidently. "I have a permit to excavate on this island."

"Show it to me."

The words were sharp as the crack of a whip.

Kiliotis threw down his tools and drew the document from his pocket-book.

Rassim took it with the air of one determined to impugn its contents. "This is not in order; it is not valid," he said uncompromisingly.

"Not valid?" The Greek protested with spirit. "I beg your pardon, Effendim; it is quite valid."

"I say no," returned Rassim, folding and retaining the paper. "This has been obtained under false pretences, and I revoke it."

The Greek went white with anger. "False pretences? What do you mean, Effendim?" he cried, with eyes that flashed with swift hatred.

"You are a dealer in Smyrna, are you not?" the Turk observed contemptuously.

"Precisely. What of that?" Kiliotis returned, through his clenched teeth. It was like the spit of a cat at a great bullying dog.

"This permit was given," replied Rassim in a tone of finally settling the matter, "for purposes of scientific exploration, and not for trade uses. I repeat it is revoked, and you will excavate here at your peril."

"You—I deny your power to revoke it," cried Kiliotis livid with rage, which the Turk's manner naturally intensified.

"If you are insolent I will have you arrested and sent to Constantinople, where the question will be settled for you in no pleasant fashion," Rassim retorted with the scornful superiority lent by his office. "I have no more to say to you. Be off. And the sooner you clear out of the island and return to your shop the better."

With an obvious effort Kiliotis checked the violence of his rage. "I am not then to have the same privilege of searching and selling what I find which is accorded to M. le Baron there?" he exclaimed scornfully, and pointing a trembling finger at de Gastard.

"You will be insolent," sneered Rassim.

"He is too angry to know what he says," observed the Baron calmly.

"It is so," said the Turk. "Be off, man, and remember you are warned."

Kiliotis seemed about to make a trenchant rejoinder, but with a determined effort shut his lips tightly and turned away with a fierce look that said more than words.

(To be continued.)

THINGS REVERSED.

Either the Japanese people do everything backwards, left-handed, and upside down, or we do. In Japan you see a man planing; he pulls the plane towards him. You notice a blacksmith at work; he pulls the bellows with his feet, while he is holding and hammering with both hands. He has several irons in the fire, and keeps his dinner-pot boiling with the waste flame. The cooper holds the tub with his toes. All of them sit down when they work. How strange! This is an important difference between a European and an Asiatic. Why is it that we do things contrariwise to the Japanese? They call our penmanship "crab-writing," because, they say, it is going backwards! In a Japanese stable we find the horse's flank where we look for his head. Japanese screws screw the other way. Their locks thrust to the left; ours to the right.

FELL OUT OF THE RIGGING.

A good story is told of a Norwegian sailor aboard the big American four-master Shonnandoah. She was commanded by Captain Murphy, whose reputation extends all over the world among seamen.

One day he ordered the Norwegian up to the royal yard to do some duty there.

"But, cap'n," protested the sailor, "it's not safe until the foot-rope's fixed. Let me fix that first."

"Do as I tell you," ordered the captain. "The foot-rope's all right."

The man went aloft. Ten minutes later all hands heard a yell and saw the Norwegian come tumbling down through the rigging, a distance of over a hundred feet. He landed on the canvas tarpaulin of a boat, bounded off, and rolled over on to the main hatch.

Of course, everybody thought the man dead, but when all hands gathered around him he showed signs of life. The fall on the boat had saved him. Presently he rose to a sitting position and rubbed his head in a dazed fashion.

"How d'ye feel, Johnson?" asked the captain, anxiously.

The captain's voice seemed to bring Johnson's senses back to him. He rose slowly to his feet, glaring wildly at the captain and at a piece of the footrope he still held fast in his hand. He deliberately pulled off his jumper and threw it upon deck.

"Cap'n," he said, slowly, "you said that foot-rope was all right. Cap'n, you was a wicked liar. Now, you come right on, and I'll smash you up. I'll give you all the fight you want. Come on, now."

But for the first time on record Captain Murphy took water. He wouldn't fight that kind of a man.

The Angler: Is this public water, my man?

The Inhabitant: Aye.

The Angler: Then it won't be a crime if I land a fish?

The Inhabitant: No; it'll be a miracle!

One winter's evening in the city of Belfast, when a water inspector was going his round, he stopped at one of the mains in a busy street to turn off the water owing to some repairs. He had just put the handle on the tap and begun turning when a hand was placed on his shoulder. Looking round, he was confronted by a tipsy gentleman, who said, in a drunken tone:

"So I have found you at last, have I? It's you that's turning the street round—is it?"

THE POULTRY YARD.

PROCESS OF MOULTING.

With the older fowls beginning to look ragged and loose, with feathers becoming plentiful in the houses and runs, the poultry yard will become less attractive than at any other time of the year. The eggs will show a considerable falling off, many of the hens having ceased to lay. To make poultry profitable, the birds should have plenty of care and attention bestowed upon them, so as to get them through the strain of moulting as soon and with as little damage as possible.

Fowls that have their liberty and are well fed usually go through this period without difficulty. Special care should be taken to shelter them during cold and rainy weather. A thorough soaking when they are nearly bare of feathers is apt to result in an attack of roup, or cause a chill, the effect of which may last for many months. Fowls that are confined to small runs should have plenty of green food. Epsom salts will be found beneficial twice a week. Use just enough to make the drinking water taste slightly. A little flower of sulphur mixed with the soft food, given in the proportion of a teaspoonful to every three fowls about once a week or so will help the new feathers to grow. The poultry houses should be kept clean, otherwise the accumulation of loose feathers in the corners will tend to increase the number of insects and vermin.

The moulting of the fowls is usually in the summer, but sometimes extends into the autumn. The moulting season is not the same with all hens, nor does a given hen begin at the same period every year. The hens that begin to moult early are those that finish their moulting early, and are ready for laying before winter commences. Having completed their growth of feathers, they are in excellent condition for doing service, but should the process of moulting extend into the autumn, the hens that have not yet finished by April or May will probably not lay until spring. Consequently, the matter of moulting is one which all who are interested in fowls must deeply consider. The moulting process requires three months.

More diseases are generally contracted during the moulting period than at any other time. But by the use of good, sound, stimulating food, pure water, plenty of room and clean quarters, one can readily pull a flock through with safety. The heavy strain upon the constitution of fowls when casting their feathers is much greater than one would suppose. The worst thing that can be done is to crowd too many on one roosting place in badly ventilated and unclean quarters. Make everything clean and use disinfectants.

If the feathers do not come quickly, and bare necks, breasts, etc., result, give a little tonic. The laying and young stock will benefit by a tonic in any case. Most of the tonics or condiments offered for sale at poultry supply stores are good, or the iron and Epsom salts tonic—a quarter pound of each to the gallon, with a little sulphuric acid added before straining—can be given, and will be found very effective, both in aiding the moult and in keeping away disease. A teaspoonful should be added to each pint of drinking water. Loose feathers must be swept up during moulting. They are sometimes the vehicles of disease, and are always untidy.

THE ALL-ROUND HEN.

Few farmers and few novices breed fowls for exhibition purposes. What they want, and need, is "general utility" hens—that is, hens that are good for all purposes and at all seasons. In other words, a hen that will lay well during the winter and early spring, set early, bring off a good hatch, and rear them well, and then lay a few dozen eggs before moulting. If she then enters the moulting period looking well and weighing well, her value is increased. Such a hen is the ideal of every farmer, for a flock of her kind will be well-nigh invaluable. It is possible to have such a flock by the observation of a few rules, among which are the following:

Select very carefully the best hens in the flock.

Mate them with a good cockerel, one from a working pen.

Yard, feed, and care for them well.

Set all the eggs from this yard.

Rear all the chicks possible in the best way possible.

As soon as they begin to exhibit individuality cull closely.

Take extra care of the selected ones.

When autumn comes, cull again, place the selected ones in a comfortable house and yard, feed for eggs, and care for them with the same end in view, and at mating time select from these selected ones only the very best to mate with an extra good cockerel.

With a few years of such work, if the care, vigilance, and culling are persisted in, the flock will consist principally of utility fowls.

BUILDING SHIPS INSIDE A VOLCANO.

Saba, in the West Indies, is one of the most extraordinary places in the world.

By courtesy it is called an island, but it is really nothing more than the summit of an extinct volcano sticking up out of the sea.

Inside the crater live the only inhabitants of Saba. They live there because there is nowhere else for them to live, the outside slopes being nearly as steep as the sides of a house.

The place belongs to Holland, and the people are all Dutch. Nevertheless, they speak English as their native tongue. They call their crater town Bottom, because it is situated on top of a mountain.

Although surrounded on all sides by the sea, they often spend weeks without seeing it, for that involves a long climb up to the rim of the crater. Still less frequently do they touch salt water, because to do so they must, in addition, climb downwards for a distance of fifteen hundred feet by a precipitous rock-hewn path, known as the Ladder.

It is, however, in regard to their staple industry that these Dutch people who speak English, and who live aloft in a volcano in a summit city called Bottom, reach the extreme of topsy-turvydom. One might imagine them making balloons or kites, or, in fact, anything but what they do make, which is ships.

Not ocean-going liners, of course, but good, serviceable schooners and luggers, whose repute is great all over the Windward Islands. The ships, when finished, have to be hauled up to the rim of the crater, and then lowered over a precipice into the sea.

One afternoon while walking along the line an Irish foreman platelayer found one of his men placidly sleeping on an embankment. The foreman looked reproachfully at the delinquent for a full minute and then remarked:

"Slape on, you lazy spalpeen, slape on, for as long as you slape you've got a job, but when you wake up you won't have none!"

"Do try to display a little more spirit!" exclaimed a professor of elocution. "Open your mouth and throw yourself into it!"

"And you say you were almost starved to death in your last employment!" said a lady to a beggar.

"What position did you hold?"

"I was treasurer of a poets' union, mum!" replied the mendicant, with a deep sigh.

THE HOME CIRCLE.

THE FOLLY OF FAMILY FRICTION.

An excellent rule for every family is to avoid friction, no matter how petty the quarrelling may be. Not only will they be happier, but the respective members will probably find that the absence of home worry means success.

If more families would recognise the golden rule of never quarrelling amongst themselves, they would soon find how greatly they benefited.

Too often it is the women-folk, actuated by motives of petty spite or jealousy, who quarrel amongst themselves, and so lay the foundation of family strife.

Therefore cultivate the arts of the peacemaker, and instead of magnifying trifles, which may have disastrous results, remember that it takes two to make a quarrel, and be no party to such folly.

GOLDEN WORDS TO WOMEN.

There is not a war in the world, no, nor an injustice, but you women are answerable for it; not in that you have provoked, but in that you have not hindered. Men, by their nature, are prone to fight; they will fight for any cause, or for none. It is for you to choose their cause, and to forbid them when there is no cause.—Ruskin.

TRAIN UP A CHILD.

Irresolution in dealing with children is fraught with dangerous possibilities. For your own sake and the sake of the child be firm. Whatever you think proper to grant a child let it be granted at the first word, without entreaty or prayer, and, above all, without making conditions. Grant it with pleasure, refuse with reluctance, but let your refusal be irrevocable; let no importunity shake resolution; let the word "No," when once pronounced, be a wall of brass, which a child, after he or she has tried his or her strength against it half a dozen times, shall never more endeavor to shake.

DON'T BE A CHATTERBOX.

Most men are possessed of the belief that woman is a natural born chatterbox, that she can keep nothing to herself. Why this should be so it is difficult to understand unless it has risen from the fact that in days gone by some women have not been guarded in their utterances as they might have been.

Let women show men that there are some who know how to restrain their feminine propensity to gossip. Let them remember that the woman or girl who keeps quiet is given credit for knowing a great deal, while the chatterbox tells all she knows, and gains no credit by it, for no one attaches much importance to her conversation.

FAULT-FINDING RARELY DOES GOOD.

When will women, especially many excellent women, realise that fault-finding rarely does good? Too much criticism always is harmful; indeed, a little of it is often more than enough. A wife's influence and her care are most effective when exercised in the constant and conscientious performance of her own duty without reference to what her husband may or may not do, and in the embodiment in herself of loving, pure, and truthful womanhood.

WHERE THE HAIRPINS FAILED.

Mr. Brownlow had returned home from a long journey, and his wife at once proceeded to tell him of all the reforms she had effected in his absence.

"Of course, you remember the drawer we couldn't open," she said. "Well," she exclaimed in triumph, "I opened it simply by using a hairpin! And then there's the oven door," she continued, with calm satisfaction; "you recollect how it's been hanging by its hinges for months, just because you were too lazy to put it right. Well, that's mended now!"

"Glad to hear it," said Brownlow. "How did you manage it?"

"Oh! I did it myself—with a hairpin. Then I also hung a picture up by the same means. I couldn't find a proper hook in the place; but the hairpin served beautifully."

"My goodness!" ejaculated Brownlow.

"And as for Johnnie, whom you've been trying to bribe and coax out of biting his nails, why, I broke him of the habit in a week!" she concluded, with maternal pride.

"With a hairpin, too, I suppose?" he meekly asked.

"No, you silly goose, with a cane!"

THE OLD STORY.

A thin, tired-looking man entered the printing office.

"I want to have a list printed," he said. "You put it down as I tell you.

"I have locked the front door.

"I have turned out all the lights.

"The kitchen windows are fastened.

"The dog is in its kennel.

"I did not forget to see if the fire were out.'

"The servants are all in.

"The stable door is locked.

"No; the water is not running in the bathroom.

"The kitten is outside.

"No; I do not smell smoke.

"That is nobody; only the windows rattling.

"I think that is all. It's to show my wife at bedtime. Save time, you know. Have it ready as soon as possible."

PATIENCE PRESERVES LOVE.

It seems difficult, not to say impossible, for the average woman to understand that there are times when a man wearies of conventionalities, and it is then that the love they bear to each other is both tried and tested. The ancient Egyptians held that the talisman which ruled the lower world was patience, and at such times as those its power is the only one which avails.

If love between man and wife is to endure until death do them part, it must be based upon stronger foundations than mere fascination or the fleeting charm of beauty; than the easily-sated satisfaction of sense. It must go deeper than outward attraction or superficial success. It must be strong enough to endure hardness, to face sorrow, sickness, and old age, with the gradual passing away of all that makes life beautiful save its own abiding and eternal presence. In a word it must be patient.

GOOD COOKING MEANS HAPPY HOMES.

It is a mortifying confession to make that marital happiness may depend upon the culinary skill of the wife, yet none the less is it a fact which cannot be gainsaid. That the straightest way to a man's heart lies down his throat is an old and oft-quoted proverb, while we are told even by poets that it is easier for civilised man to live without love than without cooks. A man may have the patience of Job, yet it is not wise to try him too often with indigestible food. It is the bounden duty of every wife to care for her husband's comfort, and in these days of inefficient and uncertain domestic service, to do this requires a fair degree of culinary skill.

Mother: Jane, you must choose between the two. Will you marry the man who loves you or the man who can dress you?

Daughter: Mamma, as an up-to-date girl, I must reply to your question that, although love is a very desirable thing, clothes are an absolute necessity.

THE HORSE

HORSES AND THEIR HEALTH.

The horse is a strict vegetarian and the most particular animal about

THE MAN WHO CAME BACK.

I.

I did not expect Desmond Fitzroy to settle down when he married. His wife was rich, and I found myself speculating how long it would take him to run through her fortune as he had run through his own.

But my calculations were based on insufficient evidence. I knew Desmond pretty well, but I did not know the lady.

Mrs. Desmond Fitzroy was a business woman, and she controlled her own fortune. Her husband was dependent upon her, and she did not permit him to forget that fact. She was cold and ambitious, and had married him because he belonged to a good family.

One day the lady remarked that she was weary of supporting a profligate pauper, and ordered her husband out of the house.

Desmond was one of those men who have a genius for spending money, and absolutely no capacity whatever for earning it. Thrown on his own resources, he went to the wall at once.

I saw him sinking lower and lower, and then one day he disappeared. Three years later a ragged tramp accosted me one evening for alms.

I brushed past him with an impatient negative, but he called after me, and something in his voice made me turn.

"Good God—Fitzroy!" I gasped, as I stared into the white, emaciated face.

He nodded.

"Give me twopence," he said grimly.

I am not emotional by any means, and other people's troubles do not, as a rule, greatly affect me; but the transformation of the gay, thoroughbred man of the world I had once known into this human wreck appalled me.

I gave him some money, and told him to call on me the next day. Nearly a week elapsed, however, before I saw him again.

Then one afternoon he sidled shamefacedly into my office, and after some persuasion I induced him to tell me his story.

It appeared he had gone from one wretched position to another still more wretched, and so on till he drifted into the vagrant class.

"But, good heavens! man, why did you not appeal to your old friends?"

He laughed bitterly.

"They disappeared when my money went."

"But your wife?"

He drew a deep breath.

"Yes," he replied slowly, "when things were at their worst I tried even that. She sent word, in reply, that the workhouses were provided for such persons as myself."

"Well," I said, "I will see what I can do. It seems to me you have neglected your own interests most foolishly. You should have consulted a lawyer. Look me up this day week."

With that I dismissed him.

Apart from a certain sympathy for the poor wretch, his curious case interested me. So much so that on the following day I called upon his wife. Never in the course of my twenty years' experience as a solicitor do I recall such a chilly interview.

The lady showed no emotion whatever. She was quite calm, but she gave me to understand in plain words that the fate of her husband was a matter of indifference to her. Having made this perfectly clear, she bade me good-day, and her servants conducted me to the door.

Then a curious thing happened. A professional failure of any kind is extremely distasteful to me, and I went to great pains and some expense to inquire into the facts concerning Mrs. Fitzroy's property in the hope of discovering something of service to my ragged client. I succeeded beyond my fondest hopes. It appeared that when Fitzroy married he still retained out of the remnants of his fortune some small house-property.

The lady had taken possession of this, and Fitzroy in his careless way, had forgotten all about it. I pursued my inquiries, and discovered that the value of the property had greatly increased, and now amounted to about £10,000.

When once I am on the scent, especially when the game afoot is hard cash, I am not easily put off. I admit Mrs. Fitzroy's lawyers did their best; but, to cut a long story short, I beat them in the end, and one day when Desmond Fitzroy, as wretched-looking as ever came into my office I had some momentous news for him.

"Mr. Fitzroy," I said in my best legal manner, "you are aware I have been engaged in the attempt to recover certain moneys which I believed to be due to you. You will be pleased to hear that my endeavors have been successful."

He looked up sharply, and a new light came in his dull, hopeless eyes.

"How much?" he said hoarsely.

"The exact amount, Mr. Fitzroy," I replied, "is £8432 17/3."

It would not be easy to describe the effect this announcement had upon the man.

The broken-down tramp was transfigured. He straightened himself, his eyes grew bright and keen, he was a man again.

II.

He began life afresh. So as to cut himself off completely with the past he even exchanged names with some wastrel of the streets. The poor wretch died as Desmond Fitzroy in the workhouse a few months later. The real Fitzroy lived as Arthur Murray.

He kept in touch with me, and I watched his development with interest. He took an interest in politics, and began to write. His articles in the newspapers and reviews attracted attention, but it was the publication of his book about a year after his deliverance that made him almost famous, and introduced him to the great world—not to the world of society merely, but to the world of intellect.

People began to talk and to inquire after his antecedents. Many stories were afloat, but all were wrong. Arthur Murray remained the man of mystery.

The next I heard was that he was standing for Parliament.

Once in the Commons I expected he would rest content. Again I was wrong. Almost from the first he became a power, and people in high places began to court him.

Some day he will be recognised, I told myself, and I wondered what would happen then. But the months passed, and this did not happen.

Then came the announcement in the "Morning Post" which sent a thrill of dismay to my heart, and sent me in hot haste to Mr. Murray's chambers in Westminster.

When I burst into his presence, hot, flurried, and agitated, he evinced no surprise, merely gazing at me with a whimsical smile.

"You have seen it?" I gasped.

He nodded.

"Your wife is going to marry the Duke of Broadshires!" I ejaculated in horror.

"Why not?" he replied, with a shrug of his shoulders. "She is rich, and still young and charming."

"But you——"

"Oh! I'm dead," he replied, with his cold smile. "I died in the workhouse nearly two years ago."

"Man, you must stop it!" I cried indignantly.

He shook his head gravely.

"Then I will."

"You will not. Listen to me, Dacre. I have been expecting this—waiting for it, working for it! The game must play itself out to the end I have appointed. No one shall stand between me and the fulfilment of my purpose—you least of all. Understand me?"

He spoke as I had never heard him speak before, and I thought I saw madness for a moment in his eyes, but still I did not give way at once. There was much further talk, but in the end he bent me to his will.

Events moved swiftly after this.

The marriage took place, and the Duchess of Broadshires blossomed into one of the great ladies of the land.

A year passed, and an heir was born to the Duke of Broadshires.

A few months afterwards Mr. Murray, now a very prominent politician, attended a reception given by the Countess of Denburgh. Many famous and influential people were present, but Murray attracted more attention than most, for he went out but little, and he was looked upon as a coming man.

About three minutes after his arrival he made a request. It was to be presented to the Duchess of Broadshires.

"My God!" The ejaculation was breathed rather than spoken; the blood rushed from her face, and left a deadly pallor behind it.

"You are faint," said the man, with just the right air of polite concern. "This place is insufferably hot. Let me take you somewhere out of the crowd!"

Murray led his companion into the open.

"I thought you were dead," said the woman, the words coming in a hoarse whisper from her parched lips.

"Naturally," replied the other coolly. "But now that you know you were mistaken there are certain formalities to be gone through."

"To-morrow," said Murray quietly, "I resume my right name. The widest publicity will be given to the fact that Arthur Murray is Desmond Fitzroy, risen again from the gutter where his wife flung him so long ago."

The woman pressed her hand to her bosom.

"You would not dare!" she gasped.

"My next step will be to claim my wife, and to take such legal steps as shall be necessary to compel her obedience to my wishes."

"It is infamous!" cried the distracted woman.

She stood swaying before him in silence. The anger died out of her eyes, giving place to a look of passionate pleading.

"Desmond," she said, in a low voice, "you loved me once."

The man stood back and looked at her curiously.

"Is it possible?" he said quietly. "What manner of man was I then, I wonder? Believe me, the Desmond Fitzroy who loved you is dead indeed, killed by your hand. It was you who flung me in the gutter and kept me there. It is you who seared my soul and made me what I am. You think me a brute. You are right. A brute I am, and I have come back to rend you, to tear to tatters the pomp and the trappings of rank and honor which you hold so dear."

He ceased, and becoming calm again, in an instant he turned and would have left her without a word.

Her white bejewelled hand fell upon his coat-sleeve with the grip as of a vice.

"Well?" he demanded coldly.

When she spoke again her voice was broken, and there were tears in it—tears of anguish, and perhaps even of repentance.

"Desmond, spare me," she cried with a sob; "for the sake of my boy. You are right. I was cold, and hard, and proud. Until my little one was born, and I held him in my arms, I did not know what love was. But, oh! Desmond, I love my boy. What can I do?—what can I say?—what can I promise to make you spare my boy?"

The man looked at her intently, looked into her eyes as though he read the inmost secret of her soul within their limpid depths.

Then he drew a deep breath, and made as though to thrust her from him. But still he looked into her eyes. He saw there a terrible fear, but he saw also something else, and it was this that made him waver, that sapped the strength of his resolution—the resolution built upon years of concentrated hate.

"Sit down," he said hoarsely.

"Not until you promise."

"You must obey me now, if for the last time," he said with a grim smile.

She sank into the seat, a wild hope leaping up in her heart.

"You will remain here until you have composed yourself, and then you will return to your friends," he said, deliberately.

He stood hesitating, and gazing thoughtfully at her bowed head. But he said no more.

Presently he turned on his heel and passed out of her presence, out of her life.

III.

It was some weeks later that I had the details of this fateful interview from his own lips, but it was within the hour that I saw him.

He came into my office briskly, and apparently quite at his ease.

"Dacre," he said, "I am run down, and want a holiday. I am going to Paris. Will you come?"

It was some hours later, when we were alone together in the train on our way to Dover, that he broached the subject that was in his mind.

"Dacre," he said suddenly, "did you ever hit a woman?"

"No; I can't say I ever did," I replied.

"Did you ever try to?" he added.

"Never."

"And yet they often deserve it."

"True," I admitted.

"And it would do them and us good?"

"Possibly."

"Yes," he cried, with sudden rage, "they deserve it, and it would do them good, but we can't do it—men of our class can't hit a woman. That's the curse of it, and so they do as they please with us. Confound the whole tribe."

"By all means; but might I ask——"

Then he interrupted me with a question, the purport of which I could not understand then.

"Dacre," he said, almost shamefacedly, "did you ever see the look in a woman's eyes when she was pleading for her child?"

An Expert on Kissing.

A successful young novelist was praising the critical powers of a certain famous author.

"I once had the honor of reading a tale of mine to this author," he said, "and, thanks to his criticism, the story was greatly improved. Originally it was too high flown; he brought it down to earth and made it homelier and truer.

"For instance, the tale concluded with these words:—

"'Mabel's lovely eyes drooped for an answer, a faint flush tinted her cheek, and she gave him both her hands; and there in the old orchard, in the shade of the heavy-fruited trees, he drew her to his breast, and, raising her long ringlets to his lips, kissed them reverently.'

"The author, at this ending, blew a cloud of smoke thoughtfully into the air, and as he watched it curl upwards he drawled:—

"'What do you think now, honestly, of a young man who would go nibbling at a girl's back hair when she had her face with her?'"

Professor Jowett's comments on the young men of Balliol often took the form of crushing sarcasm.

"The college, Mr. X., thinks highly of you," he said once; "perhaps too highly; but not half so highly, I am sure, as you think of yourself!"

Zim: Whatever made Henpeck enlist? I didn't think he had the pluck.

Zam: Well, he happened to be at home one wash-day when it rained.

CHORLEY'S ADVENTURES.

MINDING THE SHOP.

By Arnold Golsworthy.

On Saturday morning Chorley went to Finchley to see his old friend Ringstead, who had quite a large business out there as a veterinary surgeon.

Ringstead showed Chorley over the place with all the satisfaction of a successful man. He took Chorley into the surgery where dogs and cats were treated, and then led him out into the yard, and showed him where horses that came to be doctored or nursed were promptly and efficiently attended to.

Chorley was most interested, and rather wished he had set up in the veterinary business himself. Presently Ringstead said:

"We'll go out and have some lunch together, old chap; but I've got a call to make first. You won't mind waiting and looking after the place while I'm gone, will you? I shan't be more than an hour at the outside. And nobody's likely to turn up this morning."

Chorley said he would be delighted. Ringstead had not been out five minutes when Chorley, attracted by a series of wild noises in the yard, went out to see what was the matter.

A horsey-looking man was holding a rather restive mare by a rope bridle, and urging her to behave herself. The mare, on the other hand, was evidently bent on creating as much disorder as possible. She shook her head with a jerk that nearly lifted the horsey person off his feet, and then began waltzing round him backwards, while the man, with a wary eye on her hoofs, kept well ahead in the revolving dance.

"Good morning, sir," he said as he caught sight of Chorley. "The guvnor asked me to bring the mare round and let you have a look at her. Been off her feed lately, and don't seem quite herself."

By way of comment on the situation, the mare that wasn't quite herself suddenly lashed out with one of her hind legs at a wooden pail, and scattered the wreckage of it all over the yard.

"She seems pretty fresh with her hind feet," observed Chorley, with a knowing smile.

"Yes," agreed the ostler, "guv'nor thinks perhaps she's got something worrying her in one of the back fetlocks. Just catch hold of 'em and have a look, will you, sir? Whoa, mare!"

The last remark was rendered necessary by the fact that with another toss of her head the mare had lifted the ostler clean off his feet and bumped him into Chorley, who, quite unprepared for the collision, fell sprawling backwards over the doorstep that led into the room through which he had just come.

In his apprehension that the mare might be going to follow up the attack he rolled over on his back with his legs in the air, and grabbed at the nearest thing handy to save him from falling back into the yard under the animal's extremely active hoofs. The first thing he caught hold of was the cloth of a table, upon which was a sick parrot in its cage. The cage came crashing down on the top of him, while the parrot itself, abruptly awakened from its beauty sleep, fluttered and screeched about inside the cage, and finally murmured in disgusted tones the only words it had apparently been taught to speak: "Waltz me around again, Willie!"

Chorley got up hurriedly and separated himself from the cage; and then he said to the ostler:

"You'd better bring that brute round again in an hour's time; Mr. Ringstead'll be back by then."

"Oh! I thought you was the vet., sir," said the ostler.

"No," said Chorley, skipping round to get out of the way of the mare's hoofs. "I don't think I should care for a job of this sort every day."

The ostler did not reply for the moment, as the mare was industriously trying to flatten him against the wall. He retorted by giving her a sounding smack in the face as he said:

"She is a bit playful, sir, isn't she?"

Chorley agreed dubiously, and the man led the playful mare away. The two had a little difference of opinion as to which of them should take precedence in going out of the rather narrow exit from the yard. The ostler started going first, and the mare dragged him back, and blocked the exit by taking it sideways. The ostler, however, finally gained the day, and the playful mare, in sheer excess of spirits, sportively kicked a panel out of the yard door, before gracefully admitting defeat.

Chorley went back to the surgery, a large stone-paved room reeking with the odor of pungent chemicals. A case of unpleasant-looking instruments lay upon a side table, and on another table was a stuffed cat with paper labels bearing numbers, stuck here and thereupon its body.

In a recess in the wall was a cage about four feet high, with a flat wooden top, and Chorley was rather startled to observe that inside the cage were a couple of huge snakes. He had not been previously aware that the veterinary business involved temporary guests of that kind, and he began to congratulate himself upon not having embarked upon such an industry in his wild youth. The city was evidently more suited to a man of his quiet tastes.

All at once the door of the room opened suddenly, and an old lady with a stern face waddled in, dragging after her a wild-eyed bulldog.

"Good-morning," she said, seating herself by the door and removing the leash from the dog. "Your master isn't in, I see. But you'll do, I daresay. Mr. Ringstead knows Toodles very well. He's had one of his bad attacks again, and this morning he tried to bite my hand."

Toodles looked up at Chorley and snarled ominously by way of admitting his unrepentant guilt.

"You'll excuse me," Chorley began, "but I'm not——"

"You must speak up, my good man," said the old lady, "because I'm very deaf."

"I was saying," Chorley shouted, "that I'm not——"

"You must speak up, my good man," said the old lady, "because I'm very deaf."

"I was saying," Chorley shouted, "that I'm not the surgeon."

"Eh?" said the old lady. "You say you're not going to hurt him. I'm sure I hope you won't!"

"I say, you're making a mistake," Chorley bawled into her ear.

"Of course, you know what he must take," replied the old lady, looking at him in some surprise. "That's your business, isn't it? He doesn't seem to care much for strangers, that's why I brought him round here myself. Poor old Toodles! I hope he isn't going mad."

Chorley turned a trifle pink, and began to look for some place where he could climb for shelter if the dog should happen to stroll hurriedly in his direction. All at once Toodles pricked up his ears and darted to the other end of the room, where he began sniffing vigorously at a hole between the floor and the wall.

"He's evidently a good rat-killer," said Chorley, rather relieved to find the dog some distance away from his calves.

"How dare you tell me it would do him good to be killed," said the old lady indignantly, rising from her chair. "You take care of him till your master comes back. Kill my poor Toodles, indeed!"

"I said he was good at rats," shouted Chorley, getting angry in his turn. "That's all I said: R-a-t-s, rats!"

"You insulting fellow, saying 'rats!' to me," cried the old lady, going out of the door. "I'll tell your master about it, you impertinent jackanapes!"

And having shaken her umbrella severely in Chorley's face, she bounced off, shutting the door quickly behind her, so that Toodles, who had already started to follow her, should not escape from the surgery. Toodles hurled himself vainly against the closed door, and then turned round and snarled viciously at Chorley.

Chorley felt his position rather keenly. He stood looking at the dog for a moment, and then, as it hunched its shoulders, as if crouching for a spring, Chorley started wildly back, overturning the table with the stuffed cat on it, and sending the lot with a clatter to the ground.

Toodles covered the space between himself and the stuffed cat with a single bound. He gave a hoarse shriek of joy, and buried his teeth in the fur of its mummified neck. The next moment he dropped his prize with a splutter, as he discovered that the cat wasn't as fresh as it might have been.

He pawed it about for a second or so, with tears of disappointment in his eyes, and then he looked angrily up at Chorley, as if he considered that this was a mean and scrubby trick to play upon a simple and confiding bulldog. Finally, he hunched himself up again with a gild glare in his bloodshot eyes, and growled ominously.

Chorley didn't like the look of it at all. He jumped up on a chair, and said in a faint voice, "Good dog, good old Toodles," but without producing any pacifying results worth mentioning. On the contrary. Seeing Chorley beat a retreat, Toodles obeyed the first instincts of his breed in at once giving chase.

He was after Chorley in a second, and made two frantic attempts to jump up on the chair beside him. Chorley didn't wait to see the result of the third jump. He scrambled as rapidly as he could to the top of the snake cage, where he felt he would at least be out of the savage brute's reach.

Toodles got rather wild at having been thus smartly baulked of his prey. He jumped again and again in his efforts to get to the top of the cage, and treat himself to a flying bite at Chorley's fingers, but fortunately his jumping powers were not equal to his excessive sporting zeal.

All at once something gave an ominous crack. The cold perspiration gathered in drops on Chorley's brow as he heard it. The wooden top of the snake's cage was cracking and splintering beneath his weight. Before he could make up his mind whether it was worse to be bitten by an angry dog or a venomous snake, the crash came. With a yell of despair and a shriek for help, Chorley dropped through.

Tootles was quite beside himself with excitement. He hadn't noticed the snakes before, and it was clear that he couldn't make up his mind all at once whether they were the sort of things a self-respecting dog was expected to have a go at or not. Chorley gave another whoop, as he felt one of the snakes crawl over his foot, and then, fortunately for him, Ringstead dashed into the room.

"Good gracious!" he cried. "What's up, old man? What are you doing there?"

"The dog flew at me," said Chorley, "and I climbed up on top of this thing to escape him and fell in. Help me out quick. I shall get poisoned by the bite of one of these things in a minute!"

"Oh, that's all right, old chap," said Ringstead, with a reassuring smile. "They can't hurt you. They're a couple of snakes I've been attending to for a lady snake-charmer. Been taking out their fangs and poison-cells."

As he spoke he helped Chorley to scramble out of the cage. Then he turned round and saw Toodles. "Hallo!" he said. "Old Mrs. Wappings has sent her dog round again, has she? The brute's all right. He's only suffering from too much food and too little exercise."

And without further comment Ringstead kicked Toodles out into the yard, and said he hoped Chorley had got a good appetite for his lunch.

STORY-TELLERS OF JAPAN.

Though the Japanese are a nation of readers, says a traveller, they love, also, to listen to the tales of the professional story-teller, who is quite an artist in his way. The lower sort of story-teller may be seen seated at a street corner with a circle of gaping coolies around him. The higher class form guilds, who own special houses of entertainment, called "yose," and may also be engaged by the hour to amuse private parties. Some story-telling is rather in the nature of a sixpenny magazine. The man sits with an open book before him, and expounds it and dilates upon it—the story of the "Forty-Seven Ronin," perhaps, or the Chinese novel of the "Three Kingdoms," or an account of the Taira and Minamoto families in the Middle Ages. When he comes to some particularly good point he emphasises it by a rap with his fan or with a little slab of wood kept by him for that purpose.

The Japanese professional story-teller also invents and recites. If he doesn't earn his living by story-telling, he may not be admitted to the guild or "yose." The story-teller proper deals in love-tale anecdotes and imaginary incidents. The entertainment afforded in a "yose" is generally mixed. There will be war stories, love tales, recitations to the accompaniment of the banjo—the same entertainment being mostly adhered to for a fortnight, and a change made on the first and sixteenth of the month. As the number of such houses in every large city is considerable, hearers may, nevertheless, have something new every night to listen to, and the higher class of story-tellers themselves may realise what, for Japan, is a very fair income.

These paid professional story-tellers drive about from one house of entertainment to another, stopping only a quarter of an hour at each, just time enough to tell one story and earn a dollar or two by the recital. Some foreign students of the Japanese language have found the "yose" their best school for study.

A GINGERBREAD BAROMETER.

A clever Frenchman who has original ideas on most subjects employs a kind of barometer that may safely be called unique, says "Science Siftings." It is nothing more nor less than the figure of a warlike general made of gingerbread, which the Frenchman hangs by a string attached to a nail at an appropriate place in his dwelling. Gingerbread, as every one knows, is easily affected by changes in the atmosphere. The slightest moisture renders it soft; in dry weather, on the contrary, it grows hard and tough. Every morning on going out the Frenchman asks his servant, "What does the general say?" and the man applies his thumb to the gingerbread figure. Sometimes he replies, "The general feels flabby about the chest; he would advise monsieur taking an umbrella." On the other hand, when the general's symptoms are "hard and unyielding," the Frenchman sallies forth arrayed in his best, with no fears for his spotless suit or his new hat. He says the general has so far never proved unworthy of the confidence placed in his prognostications.

"Take my advice," said Napoleon to a general who mentioned luck to him. "Never seek to be lucky. In all probability, you will never be so. If a place of luck does come your way, if you have been seeking it, it has generally cost you more than it was worth."

FOR THE FARMER.

HOW TO IRRIGATE.

There are two ways to wet land: One is to turn on a stream of water and then use a hoe or shovel and stand around in the mud all day trying to make the water spread all over the ground evenly. The other is to prepare the ground so level that you can turn the water on and then go up on your front porch and read while the whole plot gets thoroughly soaked. It may take a number of hours' labor to level the ground carefully, but for every hour you put on it you will save a hundred hours subsequently.

T. S. Van Dyke discusses this subject in the "Irrigation Age" as follows:—

"When properly done, irrigation is kid-glove farming, with this important difference, that the nearer it comes to kid-glove farming the better it pays. A writer sent out by an eastern magazine to write up the subject says you must learn to wear rubber boots. On the contrary, you must lay out the ground and manage the water so that you can irrigate in slippers. The same difference runs through the whole subject, so that when it is well done it is the easiest and most profitable work in the world of equal certainty in results. There is positively no chance in the game. That is why you never find the alleged funny man in the west cracking any jokes on the irrigating farmer. He has too much respect for him, because he keeps a robust balance in the bank, and has plenty of time to play.

"That is probably why farming was respectable among the Romans and others of the olden days. And what can relieve the congestion of our cities, which is now our danger point, except something that will make farming respectable by making it profitable and easy? The cradle of civilisation, of philosophy, art, music, and literature was not rocked in the rainy lands, but beside the irrigating ditch. Irrigation has supported the world's largest and richest populations. Our ancestors came from the cold and murky woods of Europe and knew nothing but to hew down forests, dig out stumps, and depend on the direct influence of the capricious clouds."

THE BOY AND LIFE ON THE FARM.

The following very sensible article is from the "New England Farmer," and we recommend it to every father on the farm:—

"If you are a farmer and you want your son to be a farmer after you, teach him from his earliest boyhood to respect his father's calling. Instil into his mind the fact that the great men of all ages were the sons of farmers. Teach him never to feel ashamed at the senseless and threadbare jokes of would-be humorists over old Hayseed and his lumbering old market waggon and his quaintness of speech, when he visits the city and stares around at the sights, and does not make half so much of a fool of himself as the average city man when he comes to the country.

"Do not fill his life entirely with work. Recreation is as necessary to happiness and to a healthful development of the spiritual and physical faculties as is pure air, and there is untold wisdom in the old saw: 'All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.'

"Encourage him when he tries to do, even if he fails. Failures which teach us how to avoid future disasters are successes. Make him feel that you rest upon his faithfulness and truth in whatever you entrust to him.

"Do not blame him when he is not at fault, even if things do not turn out as you had expected. Never disparage his efforts. Continual disparagement breaks a boy's spirit, and there is nothing more inspiring, nothing more refreshing in this world than the broad, courageous, undismayed hopefulness of a manly boy.

"Take him into your confidence early. Let him know what you are going to plant in the ten-acre field, and how you propose to make the upland fields pay.

"Don't snub him. The man who snubs a boy is unworthy to be the father of a son. Let him have the money he earns. You would have to pay the hired man for taking care of the calves and the colts; why not remunerate your boy?

"Do not disgust him with farming in the beginning by telling him that he does not need anything but his board and clothes now, because he will have 'it all' when you are gone. One pound when a boy is ten years old is more to him than one thousand will be when you are dead and gone, and he has the farm.

"Do not devote all the land to hay, grain, and potatoes, and 'things that pay.' The garden and the orchard are important factors in the life on the farm, and the flower-bed ought to receive just as much attention as the onion-bed, where you expect to raise the strongly-flavored candidates for the first premium at your district show.

"Do not starve your family for the sake of taking the best of everything to market. A broad and generous soul cannot develop in a starved body. Live in just as good a house as you can, free from mortgage. Have a pleasant, sunny living room, with books and papers and music.

"Encourage your boy to invite his friends there, and yourself greet them cordially when they come. The lack of social privileges at home is one fertile cause of the temptation exerted by city life on the country young man."

LIFE OF SEEDS.

The period for which the seeds of different plants maintain their vitality varies a good deal.

The seeds of some vegetables are worthless after they are two years old, while the seeds of other plants improve with age until a certain period. For instance, the seeds of asparagus are good until they are four years old; beans, two years; kidney beans, one year, beets, ten years; brocoli, four years; cabbage, four years; carrot, one year; cauliflower, four years; celery, ten years; cucumber, ten years; egg plant, three years; endive, four years; kale, four years; leek, two years; lettuce, three years; melon, ten years; pea, two years; onion, two years; pumpkin, ten years; radish, four years; salsify, two years; spinach, four years; squash, four years; tomato, two years; and turnips, four years.

How He Knew.

"Now, sir," said counsel for the defence, "I suppose we may take it, from the flattering description you have given of the testator, his good points and his personal appearance generally, that you were intimately acquainted with him?"

"Him!" exclaimed the witness. "He was no acquaintance of mine."

"Indeed! Well, then, you must have observed him very carefully whenever you saw him?" pursued the examining counsel.

"I never saw him in my life," was the reply.

"Now, now, don't trifle with the court, please. How, I ask you, could you describe him so minutely if you never saw him and never knew him?"

"Well," replied the witness, and the smile which overspread his features eventually passed over the court, "you see, I married his widow."

Belle: Here's an odd thing I purchased while abroad, a girdle made of gold coins. What do you think of it?

Tom: Looks to me like a waist of money.

FROM VARIOUS SOURCES

There was trouble in an Australian circus the other day. It is probably unknown to the multitude that our friend the elephant has to take medicine like the rest of us, and the medicine usually given to the party with the trunk is good familiar salts. About five packets of Epsom in a bucket of water is an elephant's dose, and the elephant doesn't like it. At the circus mentioned, Ponto's stomach was out of trim, and Ponto was ordered four packets of the usual. Ponto's keeper took him his dose in a pail, and Ponto tasted it and backed off, blowing his tin trumpet angrily. When an elephant declines his salts, they do not hold his nose and pour the mixture into him with a spoon; they leave him entirely without liquid refreshment until he is glad to drink anything. After several attempts and long abstinence Ponto took his bucket of salts, but his demonstrations of disgust were most touching. He was now allowed to drink, but while the keeper was filling a bucket at the tap the brute's natural disgust overcame his prudence, and seizing the hapless human, Ponto hurled him over his head into a stack of seats. Then the animal got after his unjust keeper with the amiable intention of kneeling on him and crushing his life out, and there was a grand struggle and much rummaging among the wreckage of the seats. Presently, however, the keeper secured his hook and jabbed it into Ponto's ear. An elephant with a hook in his ear and a 12st. keeper hanging to it is comparatively helpless. Ponto was roped up, and then he got Gehenna with the lid off, and was brought to tears and penitence; after which the keeper went to the nearest hospital, where he remained for six weeks.

A man met with a peculiar death in a rural district in New South Wales the other day. He was carting in a load of rabbits when his trap was overturned and the driver was smothered under the rabbits. To be sure, many hundreds of Australian settlers have been wiped out by rabbits before today, but this is the first man to be actually smothered by them, and it is an unlooked-for development of the rabbit plague. As a set-off against the New South Wales case, a "Punch" man recalls an instance of a Western District trapper whose life was saved by a waggon load of rabbits. He was overtaken by a fierce bush-fire when driving into the station town with a big lot of "rabbies" and "kittens," and finding escape impossible, cut his horses loose and buried himself under the rabbits. He was within an ace of being suffocated, but the fire passed over him and left him alive and kicking.

Behind the scenes actors are often given to playing practical jokes, and so they are in private life. The other night a prominent comedian, having to make a quick change, found one of his boots nailed to the floor, and had to go on the stage in one boot and one sock, inventing a "gag" to explain his plight. It took so well that he has made it part of his regular "business," and so turned the tables on the practical joker. The same Thespian was afterwards out by the sea with some friends, and pushed the suspected practical joker into the sea, clothes and all. Later on, knowing that revenge would be sought, he chose an opportunity when they were all in bathing to come out early and dress himself in his enemy's clothes. He then stood around handy to the water, tempting reprisal. It soon came, and he was floundering in the water. "Ha! ha! revenge is sweet!" shouted the joker. "Yes, it's all right, old man," replied the comedian; "but they're your clothes! I don't care." So once more he scored.

A butcher in a small way of business was in the habit of sending his son out with a small trap to deliver orders. The lad was a careless driver, and one day he knocked down an old lady. The inevitable lawsuit followed, and the butcher had to pay heavy damages. Shortly after this the son was the cause of another accident which had a similar unfortunate result, and the drain on the butcher's resources brought him to the verge of ruin. A few days after the second case had been settled, he was sitting in his shop thinking over his hard fate when a neighbor came rushing in breathless with the information that the butcher's wife had been run over by the careless driver of a private carriage, and was lying in the hospital with a broken leg. "Thank goodness!" exclaimed the butcher, as if greatly relieved. "My luck's changed at last!"

A pathetic sight met the eyes of passers-by on the Toorake-road the other day. A furniture van had collapsed, and the furniture had suffered severely. On the road were grouped chairs, tables, looking-glasses and such-like goods which go to furnish the villas of the present time. They looked battered and unhappy in their temporary resting-place of the gutter and thereabouts; what self-respecting bed or overmantel could preserve its dignity under such conditions? The drivers of the van looked wretched, even the horses hung their heads in shame, standing amongst the ruins of someone's household gods. But that which crowned the irony of the situation was the large inscription written on the side of the empty van, which could be read for miles around, "Furniture carefully removed."

Left-Handed Cigars.

It is not always because a cigar is badly made that the wrapper curls up and works off. It is often because a right-handed man is smoking a left-handed cigar. A left-handed cigar is one rolled by the maker's left hand, for all cigar-makers must be ambidextrous.

A leaf of tobacco for the wrapper is cut on the bias, and is rolled from left to right on the filler. The other piece, for reasons of economy, is then used, and must be rolled the opposite way by the operator's other hand.

Hence a smoker who holds his cigar in his right hand sometimes in twisting it about rubs the wrapper the wrong way, and loosens it.

"No use talkin'," said the farmer, mournfully, to the conductor of the tram; "Melbourne hain't the city it used to be."

"Why, what's the matter with it, guv'nor?"

"I've been here three days, and nobody has tried to work the confidence trick on me, or tried to snatch my watch, an' I've got my right change back every time. I feel as if I'd had my trip for nothin'."

A man was before the magistrates charged with being found drunk on licensed premises. A witness stated that he and defendant sat talking together for some time.

Magistrate (to witness): Did he talk quite rationally?

Witness: Oh, no, sir; just like you and me are talking now.

DAIRYING.

PURE WATER FOR COWS.

Too much attention cannot be given to the drinking water supplied to dairy cows. It is to be regretted that in many cases the cows have access only to a stagnant pond in which they must wade before sufficient depth is attained to enable them to drink.

When drinking, cows are apt to void excreta, with results that may be imagined should such material fall into the water, as, unfortunately, too often occurs. Such a state of affairs should be remedied at once. Even if the droppings of cows are excluded from the drinking place, stagnant water is certain to be crowded with bacterial life, so that, apart from the risk to the cow's health, the chance of trouble with the milk is greatly increased by allowing cows access to such a pond.

There are many ways by which the bacterial life of a stagnant pond may gain access to milk, but probably the most common way is by means of the organisms carried out of the water on the exterior of the cow, and which, at milking time, may fall into the bucket. The evil of this will be realised when it is remembered that among the bacterial life of any pond may be found, almost without exception, many organisms capable of bringing about injurious changes in milk, butter or cheese.

The ideal watering place is a running stream of pure water, so protected that cows cannot wade in it. Where no such stream exists every endeavor should be made to approach the ideal as nearly as possible, and if it is necessary for the cattle to drink water that is more or less stagnant, matters should be so arranged that they can obtain what they require without having to stand in it.

A pipe syphon with ball-cock regulator and drinking troughs can now be connected with almost any tank, well, or watercourse, at such a small expense that no farm should be without one or more, and then clean water would be assured. The necessary piping and regulator costs only a few shillings.

THE OTHER FELLOW'S JOB.

There's a craze among us mortals that
is cruel, hard to name,
Wheresoe'er you find a human you
will find the case the same;
You may seek among the worst of
men or seek among the best,
And you'll find that every person is
precisely like the rest.

Each believes that his real calling is
along some other line
Than the one at which he's working
—take, for instance, yours or
mine;
From the meanest "me-too" creature
to the leader of the mob,
There's universal craving for the
"other fellow's job."

There are millions of positions in the
busy world to-day,
Each a drudge to him who holds it,
but to him who doesn't, play;
Every farmer's broken-hearted that in
youth he missed his call,
While that same unhappy farmer is
the envy of us all.

Any task you care to mention seems a
vastly better lot
Than the one especial something
which you happen to have got.
There's but one sure way to smother
envy's heartache and her job;
Keep too busy at your own to want
"the other fellow's job."

—Strickland K. Gillilen.

OUR WONDERFUL BODIES.

The mechanism of the human body is the most complicated and perfect in existence. There is no movement known to engineers which does not exist in our bodies. The muscles alone number five hundred, and the alimentary canal measures about thirty-two feet.

The heart is six inches in length and four inches in diameter, and beats seventy times per minute, 4200 per hour, and 100,800 times per day. At each beat of the heart two and a-half ounces of blood are thrown out of it, 175 ounces per minute, and 656¼ lbs. per hour.

All the blood in the body passes through the heart in three minutes. This little organ, by its ceaseless industry, pumps each day what is equal to lifting 122 tons one foot high, or one ton 122 feet high.

Each square inch of our skin contains 3500 perspiratory pores, each of which may be likened to a little drain-pipe one-fourth of an inch long, making an aggregate length in the entire surface of the body of 201,166 feet.

After All.

Mrs. Silas Bennett was a philosopher. On a certain dismal occasion some of the neighboring women were condoling with her. With commendable cheerfulness she replied:—

"I've reared four girls an' three boys, expectin' every time they'd be red-headed like their Grandpa Bennett, an' yet they ain't.

"An' I've worried consid'ble over smallpox breakin' out in my big family. So far, 'tin't.

"Last summer, durin' July an' August, an' mebbe part of September, I was real melancholic, fearin' I'd got an appendix; but I guess I ain't.

"An' through it all it never once occurred to me that I'd be the one to fall through them rotten old meetin'-house steps an' break my leg in two places, but I be."

Better Perhaps.

A bashful young man could defer the momentous question no longer, so he stammered:

"Martha—I—I—do—do you—you must have—are you aware that the Good Book says—er—that it is not—g—good that a m—man should be alone?"

"Then hadn't you better run home to your mother?" coolly suggested Martha.

Corrected.

An Irishman and a Scotsman were discussing the Licensing Bill.

"Sure, an' ye might get used to it after awhile. Ye know they say a camel can go eight days without a drink," said he of the Green Isle.

"Hoot, mon!" retorted the other. "It's little ye know about the Campbells when ye say that. There is na one o' them could go eight hours wi'out a drap o' somethin'!"

Which ended the discussion.

A Capital Joke.

He wasn't what one might call a polished gentleman, but he took a great interest in the local school, and sometimes "dropped in to put a few questions to the youngsters."

"Now," he said on one occasion, pointing to the smartest boy of the class before him. "Wot's the capital of 'Olland?"

"H!" came the reply like a flash; and even the teacher's scowl failed to suppress the snigger that went rippling through the room.

The Symptoms.

"I had my character told the other day. The professor said I was a vegetarian."

"How did he know that?"

"Well, he saw that I had carroty hair, red-dish cheeks, a turn-up nose, and a sage look—see?"

"Humph! Him? He'd run before he'd fight me!"

"I reckon he'd have to."

WORKING CLASS INSURANCE IN GERMANY.

Sir John Gorst remarks in the "Forum" for December:—In the history of social reform there is no piece of work more remarkable than the system of almost universal insurance for the working classes in Germany, which was inaugurated by Bismarck a little more than 20 years ago. Provision is made by it for sickness and accident, and for permanent disability arising from either of these causes or from old age; and its importance to Germany itself is shown by the fact that in 1901, out of a total population of 57,730,000, over ten millions of work-people were insured against accident, and nearly thirteen and a-half millions against disability arising from ill-health or old age. . . . It is scarcely necessary to emphasise the far-reaching importance of the system. The cost to the individual employer or employed is comparatively trifling, and the benefits to the community are incalculable. It greatly lightens the burden of poor law administration, and secures a provision for the times of sickness and incapacity which can be claimed as a right by the worker, and does not come to him as a dole from the State or as a charity. It assuredly keeps many homes intact which otherwise must inevitably be broken up, and by bringing employers and employed constantly together in the administration of the insurance societies it helps to promote that mutual understanding which is the surest guarantee for the maintenance of industrial peace. So successful has the system of insurance become that there are many schemes in the air for its extension, so as to provide against non-employment and for widows and orphans. Whatever may come of these, the existing scheme deserves the closest study on the part of all who are interested in social reform.

CASH ON DELIVERY.

A good story is told of a coachbuilder in England and one of his customers who has an unenviable reputation for not paying his debts. A smart-looking, well-apointed trap was supplied to order, and the manufacturer, who accompanied the delivery, naturally waited payment. The customer understood this, and went upstairs, apparently with the object of getting his cheque-book. At any rate, his word on coming down were "Dear, dear, my wife is out, and she has with her the keys of the safe. Will you drop in on Monday?" This was just the sort of excuse expected by the manufacturer, other traders having informed him of what he might expect.

The maker of vehicles gave his patron a courteous "Good day," but instead of going straight to town, he went to the coachhouse, in which the new trap had been placed. Said he to the ostler, "Your boss is a hard man to please. I've painted the trap black at his own suggestion, and now he wants it olive color." He thereupon wheeled the trap away.

Reader's will judge of the buyer's astonishment and disgust when shortly afterwards he gave instructions to his man to put in the horse, and try the new trap. We are unable to repeat the language used to the poor coachman for allowing the property to be removed.

A NOTABLE MAN.

As a boy the Hon. W. S. Fielding, the Canadian Finance Minister, who has been on a visit to England, visioned himself becoming a person of consequence. He determined to learn all he could while at school, and there is a story that young William, who was born 60 years ago, sold newspapers in the evening to help to pay for his education. At 16 he entered a newspaper office in Halifax, Nova Scotia, as a junior clerk. Four years later he was promoted to be an editorial writer in the same office, and at 27 he found himself chief editor. Soon after his election to the Provincial Legislature he was made a Minister. In two years he rose to be Prime Minister, and after holding that office for 12 years he resigned to become Minister for Finance in the Cabinet of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. He has 12 successive Canadian budgets to his credit.

VARIETIES.

"Mrs. Barkley, are you familiar with 'Songs without words'?"

"Oh, yes—quite! Mr. Barkley frequently sings them when he comes home early in the morning!"

Mr. Kid: How does that shoe feel?

Mrs. Kid: I really cannot say, but if it feels half as uncomfortable as my foot feels, I can sympathise with it.

Silence is the safest response for all the contradiction that arises from impertinence, vulgarity, or envy.

Personality is of greater value than beauty, either of face or of figure, to a woman; and better than a handsome face and physique to a man.

Yabsley: I knew that fellow Dobson would make his way to the front.

Timson: And has he?

Yabsley: Why, yes; he started as a conductor on a tramcar, and now he's a driver.

Master of the House: Your mistress tells me, Jane, that you wish to leave and become an attendant at a lunatic asylum of all places. Why, what experience have you had?

Jane: Well, sir, I've been here three years!

Farmer: You had a fire at the manse this morning. Any serious loss?

Minister: Yes; ten years' sermons were completely burned.

Farmer (with the memory of many a weary Sunday morning): Faith, but they made a gran' blaze—they were so dry, ye ken.

Once at dinner, at which Dr. Emil Reich was present, the conversation turned on marriage.

"That was a wise saying of the old Greek philosopher," said someone. "'Whether you marry her or not, you will regret it.'"

"Yes," answered Dr. Reich, "it reminds me of a certain old maid who once said something almost as good as that. 'Auntie,' said her little niece to her, 'what would you do if you had your life to live over again?' To which the lonely spinster replied, 'Get married, my child, before I had sense enough to decide to be an old maid.'"

A farm laborer once spied an escaped parrot sitting on a cottage roof. It was the first time he had ever seen such a bird, and, getting a ladder, he proceeded to climb up after the unknown treasure.

But when he reached the roof the parrot flapped a wing at him, and sternly demanded, "What d'ye want?"

There was a pause, then the laborer touched his cap, and stammered out, "I beg your pardon, sir, I thought you was a bird."

Pat's Idea.

An Irishman, more patriotic than clever, enlisted in a regiment with the intention of becoming a gallant soldier. The fencing instructor had experienced rather a difficult job in the matter of explaining to him the various ways of using the sword.

"Now," he said, "how would you use the sword if your opponent feinted?"

"Bedad," said Pat, "I'd just tickle him with the point to see if he was shamming."

PRESTON BOWLING CLUB.

OPENING OF THE NEW GREEN.

Invitations to the inaugural opening of the above club's green have been issued by the president (Lieut.-Col. Braithwaite) and Mrs. Braithwaite for this afternoon at 3.

Amongst those who will be present are Mr. J. Hume Cook, M.P., and Mr. G. C. Clausen, president of the V.B.A. The president of the shire (Cr. E Allchin) will declare the green open for play at 3 p.m. Rinks from Northcote, St. Kilda, Thornbury and Hawthorn City have signified their intention of being present, and altogether everything promises to be a great success.

DeGilio's band will discourse sweet music, and afternoon tea will be dispensed by Mrs W. Braithwaite and lady friends.

NORTHCOTE POLICE COURT.

MONDAY, MARCH 1.

[Before Dr. Cole, P.M., and Mr. F. J. Plant, J.P.]

Debt.

Alfred Tharratt v. Frank Parker. Money lent £1. Order for amount, with 5s costs

Same v. H. Newman. Goods sold and delivered £10 11s 6d. Order for amount, with 5s costs.

Playing "Two-up."

Fred. Hibbert and Thomas Bromley were charged with playing an illegal game, namely "two-up."

Constable Hayes stated that he saw the lads in company with four others playing the game off Dennis street, on February 6. They had been cautioned before this. Since then Hibbert had had the misfortune to lose one of his fingers.

On promising that they would not play the game again the case was adjourned for 16 weeks.

Riding on the Footpath.

For this offence Jas. Rodda, Alf. Allen and Roger Gilmour were each fined 5s.

Application for Reduction of a Fine.

James Campbell, who was recently fined £10 with £10 10s costs for using a shop in High street, for the purpose of betting, made application to have his fine reduced. He pointed out that he had never been in a court before, that the shop had been open only a few weeks, that the bets were very small and that this was the only instance where there had been such a large fine for a first offence. The Bench also were given the impression that it would not matter much to him (Campbell) what the fine was as others would pay it.

Dr Cole replied that this Bench was not bound by what others did, and he might say there was one member of the Bench who thought the fine should be made the maximum of £100. They had to remember that this gambling brought ruin on hundreds of people and should be put down. Even if the bets were small it meant a lot out of the wages of working men. Further he did not think the Bench had any power to reduce a fine they had once imposed.

The applicant—I was told by the Crown Law Department you could.

The P.M.—Whoever told you that does not know the law. Our decisions can only be altered by a higher court on appeal. What, according to a letter we have received from the Crown Law Department you were advised to do was to come and ask us for time to pay. We understand you are willing to pay £20 down and the balance in instalments of £3 a month.

Campbell—Yes.

The application as to the terms was granted.

Northcote Horticultural Society

The monthly meeting was held in the town hall on Tuesday, the 2nd inst. A discussion on the treatment of dahlia plants for the production of show blooms elicited the fact that the red spider is playing havoc in most gardens. The recent spell of warm weather has favoured the spread of the pest, which is very difficult to get rid of. The remedy recommended to keep it in check is frequent spraying of the plants overhead with clear water. Plants affected beyond recovery should be cut down to the ground and fresh growths encouraged in the hope of getting blooms late in the season. Roses were said to be making satisfactory growth, and a good autumn display of the queen of flowers appears to be assured. It was decided to hold the autumn show in the town hall on the 14th April, and schedules of prizes were ordered to be printed and distributed. The monthly competitions resulted as follows, Mr. Shade acting as judge:—Mrs. Lehrke, cut flowers, 3 pts.; Mr. Esler, 4 roses, 4 pts.; Mr. Esler, collection geraniums, 3 pts.; Mr. Dunn, cut flowers, 3 pts.; Mr. Dunn, 3 roses, 3 pts. Mr. Shade staged for exhibition only a fine collection of dahlias.

Northcote Poultry and Pigeon Society.

The seventh annual young stock show of the above was held last Saturday, 27th, in Northcote town hall, there being a fair entry, and the quality of birds up to former years. The birds were exhibited in the new coops of T. G. Collis, of Seymour, and for appearance and cleanliness and labour-saving they are unsurpassed. The attendance was good. Mr. G. Harvey judged all breeds and gave general satisfaction.

PRIZE WINNERS:

Dorking.—Cockerel, H. Frost 1; pullet, H. Frost 1.

Black orpington.—Cockerel, J. Alder 1, H. Frost 2 and 3.

Black orpington.—Pullet, C. D. Hook 1 and special, H. Frost 2, J. Alder 3.

Buff Orpington.—Cockerel, H. Frost 1; pullet, H. Frost 1 and 2.

White orpington.—Cockerel, G. Bretherton 1, T. Dower 2.

White orpington.—Pullet, G. Bretherton 1 and 2, C. E. Swift 3, B. O'Connor v.h.c.

Silver wyandotte.—Pullet, H. Frost 1.

Golden wyandotte.—Pullet, C. R. Swift 1.

Game, all varieties.—S. W. Bryan.

Andalusian.—Cockerels and pullets, J. A. James, of Wangaratta, took all prizes.

Minorca.—Cockerel, J. Shopland 1 and special.

Minorca.—Pullet, F. Almond 1.

White leghorn.—Cockerel, C. D. Hook 1, A. C. Mayfield 2 and 3, T. Dower v.h.c.

White leghorn.—Pullet, C. D. Hook 1 and 2 and v.h.c., G. Bretherton 3, C. E. Dickason v.h.c.

Brown leghorn.—Cockerel, E. Dobell 1 and 3, R. Briggs 2.

Brown leghorn.—Pullet, R. Briggs 1 and 2.

R.C. brown.—Cockerel, S. E. Blackburn 1, A. Raymond 2.

Ancona.—Pullet, J. Alder 1.

Pekin.—Drake, S. E. Blackburn 1, W. H. Smith 2; duck, S. E. Blackburn 1 and special, W. H. Smith 2.

Buff orpington.—Drake, H. McKenzie 1; duck, H. McKenzie 1.

Trio, cockerel and two pullets.—J. Shopland 1.

Export class.—S. E. Blackburn 1.

Nature How Much, Man How Little.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—I am a recent arrival in the elevated suburb of Northcote. What a beautiful spot it is! Fashioned by Nature to be the nursery of thousands of healthy citizens, endowed with vitality to carry forward the strenuous battle which we must continue to wage until our beloved country is in the forefront of nations.

I have stood on the commanding height of Rucker's Hill and let my gaze wander over the multitudinous house tops until it rested upon that serenely flowing stream which bounds our town upon the western side. All is beautiful! Then, strolling through pleasant by ways to Prospect grove, I have looked my fill at the glorious eastern prospect where the Yarra runs its tortuous course seawards, picking up *en route* the beautiful Darebin. Yes, truly all is beautiful! Nature has indeed been prodigal of her gifts. How has "vile man" behaved? Most abominably. "Vile man' as represented by "the powers that be" has allowed the highways and byways to be made so as to give the poorest result—No beauty, convenience.

I am much puzzled to know the necessity for the deep channels on either side of our High street. Can modern engineering skill devise no underground drain to carry away excess water? At the present time I should imagine vehicular traffic is much incommoded by these fearful ravines. In the short space of a month I have counted 14 horses unable to extricate their loads from these channels. If I had a more facile pen I would try to cite a few more instances where "vile man," through his representatives, has committed and permitted similar atrocities.—Yours, &c.

SIMPLE SUBURBANITE.

CRICKET.

NORTHCOTE V. STH. MELBOURNE.

A CONTRAST IN WICKETS.

This match was commenced on February 20th, when South scored 339 runs for the loss of 5 wickets, and was continued on Saturday last on a wicket which had apparently received no preparation for the week and was thoroughly saturated with the morning's rain. Mccormack declared his innings closed and at 3.47 Northcote commenced their first innings and succeeded in knocking up 92 runs, of which Webb made 26, Billings 22 and Richardson 22, the last-named giving a very fair display and made his 22 whilst Billings made 5. Rose was the most successful bowler, getting 3 for 12, and these wickets were all obtained off his last four balls. Vernon obtained 4 for 22. With 50 minutes to go Northcote commenced their second innings, the wicket being if anything a trifle worse after being rolled, and lost 3 wickets for 28. Rose again bowled well, securing 2 for 8, whilst Vernon got 1 for 9. The wicket on the first day was as fast and true as a wicket could be, and on the second day just as slow and treacherous, whilst the grass in the out-field was very long. Scores—

NORTHCOTE—First Innings.

Webb, c Sub. b Horsburgh ...	26
Rowe, c Sub. b Vernon	1
Buckley, b Vernon	0
Billings, b Rose	22
Brown, b Vernon	4
Bailey, c Dea b Vernon	3
O'Leary, b Vernon	2
Richardson, c Dea b McCormack...	22
Wilkinson, not out	0
Mitchell, b Rose	0
Plant, l.b.w. Rose	0
Sundries	12
Total ...	92

Second Innings.

Webb, b Rose	8
Rowe, c Kenny b Rose	2
Wilkinson, c Kenny b Vernon ...	1
Billings, not out	8
Rickardson, not out...	4
Sundries	5
3 wkts. for ...	28

South Melbourne, 5 wkts. for 339, innings declared closed.

NORTHCOTE V. STH. MELBOURNE.

SECOND ELEVENS.

These teams continued their match at the Northcote Park under somewhat unfavorable conditions for the local team, as South had kept the wickets the whole of the former Saturday and compiled 283 for the loss of 9 wickets. Williams 92, Crawford 72, End 28 not out, were the principal contributors. Bedford was the most successful bowler for Northcote, getting 4 for 19. As the wicket was in a bad state South did not continue their innings and Northcote were disposed of in the first innings for 65, and in the second 139 Burrell 10 and 36, Begg 18 and 29, Pratt 13 and 23, Mues 11 and 20. South won by an innings and 29 runs and secured a 3-point win.

TO-DAY'S MATCH.

Northcote had arranged to take a trip to Doncaster, but the match has been cancelled. A match will take place at the Northcote park, Northcote v. All Comers, starting at 2.30.

Saturday, 13th.—Northcote will play the Riddell's Creek at Riddell. Members wishing to accompany the team please notify secretary.

PRESTON V. EAST BRUNSWICK.

The above match was started last Saturday on the new Brunswick ground, and as the rain had soddened the new turf play could not start until about 3.30. Haysom, Preston's captain, won the toss and sent the East into bat, but Preston soon found how sadly they missed their champion bowler, Jim Paterson, who could not play. The innings closed for 157 runs (Winn 53, Lowe 24; C. Robinson 3 for 13, W. Haysom 3 for 56). The catching and fielding of the Preston was far below the usual standard. Preston have lost 2 wickets for 37 (Dillon 17 not out). Play will be resumed to-day.

Preston Presbyterians, 51 (Boyd 16, E. Hughes 15, L. Freeman 12) and 1 for 9 v. Heidelberg, 64 (R. Paterson 5 for 33 and A. Jones 4 for 7).

Northcote Presbyterian A v. Dorcas St. Scores—Northcote, 114 and 3 for 45 (Shand 17 & 10, Stalker 17, Adams 24, Howie 18, Richardson 14 not out); Dorcas St., 25 (Teasdale 5 for 12, including hat trick; Richardson 3 for 12). The match will be continued to-day at Northcote.

The match between Northcote Presbyterian B & St. Andrew's was commenced at Carlton last Saturday. Scores—Northcote, 117 (Landy 39, McKenzie 22, Hayes 21); St. Andrew's, 7 for 55 (Thomson 4 for 28).

Preston Methodist v. Albert Park. Scores—Preston, 100 and 3 for 32 (Bussell 44, Barker 18, Stephenson 20); Albert Park, 164 (Barker 5 for 37, Freeman 2 for 25). The match will be concluded to-day.

Everleigh were defeated by Richmond Mascotte by 42 runs. Everleigh play Bellmont at Preston to-day.

Pitt's tannery v. Michael Hallenstein's. Scores—Pitt's, 74 and 6 for 150 Roberts 9 and 25, Saunders 9 and 100 not out, the highest individual score of the competition); Hallenstein's, 72 (Cochrane 5 for 28, Bowden 3 for 22, Milne 2 for 15). There will be no play to-day owing to the tanners' and curriers' picnic.

South Preston Methodist play North Melbourne at Preston to day.

Be sure you ask for and see that you get T. W. SHEERIN'S Improved Match Cricket Balls—absolutely the strongest made ball the world produces. Look for the name and "Kangaroo Brand" which are gold stamped on each ball. Manufactory: 32 and 34 Wellington St., Collingwood. Sherrin's cricket balls are used by the English Eleven and all the Leading Clubs of Melbourne in pennant matches; also ordered by the trustees of the Sydney cricket ground, and used throughout the Commonwealth by the leading clubs.

Madame Melba promises to become an energetic advertising medium for Australia. "Do you know," she says, "I intend during this trip to write a series of articles on Australia for English and American publications. People of other lands have no idea of the possibilities of this great country." That is kind, but if Melba is really desirous of pushing Australia ahead, she should write songs about the Commonwealth, not articles, and she should sing them herself in the great centres of civilisation.

NORTHCOTE

Property Exchange.

Stott & Bastings

(H. E. BASTINGS, W. S. STOTT),

Auctioneer,

Sworn Valuer,

Estate & Insurance Agents.

RENTS COLLECTED.

BUILDINGS ARRANGED.

MONEY TO LEND ON DEEDS.

OFFICES:

207 High St., Northcote.

521 High St., Upper Northcote.

Station St., Fairfield (on station).

381 High St., Preston (opp. Shire Hall)

Heidelberg Road, Alphington.

Tel. 1976.

BOWLING.

NORTHCOTE COUNCIL v. PRESTON COUNCIL.

The challenge issued by the Northcote councillors to their *confreres* at Preston to a "friendly joust at bowls" at Northcote green on Wednesday next has been accepted by Preston on the following terms:—

ACCEPTANCE OF YE CHALLENGE.

Baron Allchin, his followers and scribes rejoice greatly because of ye opportunity afforded them by His Worship ye Earle Tharratt to take up ye solid bowl at ye village green, and can assure ye inhabitants of ye earldom that the bowl will go round at a great speed whereby the aforesaid village green will be strewn with dead marines ere ye orb of day sinks to rest beneath the distant You Yangs.

Therefore ye Baron, with the aid of his chief scribe, picketh up ye gauntlet and thinketh it will require many bowls to quench the fire of his followers.

By order,

WITHY, ye Scribe.
HAMMY, ye Publican.

God Save ye Kynge.

One signing himself "Preston Barracker," on reading the Northcote challenge in the *Leader* last week, was moved to write the following:—

"Ye champions of cricket"—
"They" lost at the wicket—
Still a name they are bent on regaining.
Your win was a tussle,
Now rub up your muscle,
And see, like good chaps, to your training.

Do they comfort their souls
They can beat you at bowls?
Now just heed me, and hearken, and heed
You're their victors at ball— [you!
And you're Prestonites all—
And the conquering Baron shall lead you.

Then you're certain to win,
You're all pluck and All-chin,
And the chin marks you're stock of decision:
Egad, Tharratt 'll stare
When your bowls everywhere
Toddle home with the nicest precision.

Then arise in your strength
On the glorious tenth—
Think of prestige and Preston and beauty,
And we'll stake half-a-crown
That from Baronwards down
Every hero remembers his duty.

You're o'armatched, not out-classed,
But think of your past;
And another small matter we'd note is,
We'd beg leave to say
Wear no braces that day,
Only belts for the scalps of the "Cotles."

Four-rink pennant.—Thornbury v. Auburn Heights, played at Thornbury green on Saturday last.

Auburn Heights, 128.

1. Henderson, McGann, Boyd, Nicholson	25
2. Clyne, Brown, Gilchrist, Noel ...	32
3. Estes, Mackay, Lamborn, Rodda ...	32
4. Barrow, Kerr, Pearson, Phillips ...	39

Thornbury, 73.

1. Harris, Robb, Workman, Stephens	24
2. Boyd, Johnson, Jarrett, Gilpin ...	21
3. Pike, E. Ingham. H. Smith, Whalley	17
4. Meakin, Downing, Dickason, King	11

Northcote v. Moreland, played at Moreland on Saturday last.

Northcote, 123.

1. McIntosh, Brown, Readie, Bennell	40
2. Treleaven, Hayes, Magnus, Schiefer-decker	35
3. Allen, Marsden, Tylor, Plant ...	24
4. Bailey, Saunders, Lawrence, Mitchell	24

Moreland, 68

1. Roberts, sen., Homewood, Hardham, jun., Hardham, sen. ...	12
2. Whitehorn, Barkham, Pigdon, Sadler	18
3. Miller, Panther, White, Hartley ...	18
4. E. Oatan, Hall, Roberts, Jones ...	20

Three-rink pennant.—North Fitzroy B v. Thornbury, played on the Carlton green on Saturday last.

North Fitzroy, 87.

1. Naunton, Gilchrist, Wienecke Batson	29
2. Smalley, McColl, Wynblath, Beveridge	20
3. Dare, Green, White, O'Connell ...	38

Thornbury, 59.

1. Fairclough, Tobin, Brown, Doran ...	15
2. McDougall, Denny, Farley, Harry...	32
3. Robinson, Littlejohn, Cogle, Launder	12

THORNBURY PROGRESSIVE RINK TOURNAMENT.

The following is the result of the fifth section, played on Thursday evening:—

Alexander, Dempsey, Butcher, Johnson (Collingwood) ...	won 10	ends
Cant, White, Schulz, Mellor (North Fitzroy) ...	„ 9	„
King, Oxlade, Jones, Banting, (Prince's Park) ...	„ 9	„
Green, Woods, Bowman, McWilliams (N. Fitzroy) ...	„ 8	„
Fairclough, Denny, Brown, Doran (Thornbury) ...	„ 5	„
Storie, Allen, Dedman, Glew (Prince's Park) ...	„ 4	„

Thornbury played a three-rink friendly match against Lilydale on Wednesday on the Thornbury green.

Thornbury, 70.

1. Miss King, Miss Adams, Boyd, Gilpin	25
2. Meakin, Downing, Launder, King ...	17
3. Bulmer, Tobin, Workman, Stephens	26

Lilydale, 42.

1. Artis, James, Artis, Adam ...	17
2. Oliver, Holyoak, Oliver, Phillips ...	13
3. Wilson, Cook, Wilkes, Kay ...	12

Thornbury four-rink played Essendon on Tuesday night last. This was a close contest, won by the visitors by 8 points.

C. Mitchell (Northcote) won his game in the champion of champions contest on Wednesday—31—26. J. S. Whalley (Thornbury) in the same tournament lost—31—27.

Thornbury three-rink team play Prince's Park at Thornbury to-day, and a two-rink team will play Essendon Rovers at Thornbury.

On Tuesday night Thornbury plays a three rink match with Studley Park and a two-rink match with Kew on the Thornbury green.

On Thursday night the fourth section of the progressive rink tournament, which was postponed from February 25th, will be played.

To-day Northcote three-rink play the S.M.C.C. Rovers at Northcote. The 4 rink team is disengaged. The officials of the club will attend the opening of the Preston green.

John Christian Watson, M.H.R., who resigned the leadership of the Federal Labour party, is having a real good time in South Africa. If anyone thought he went down there for a business holiday he or she must have made a mistake. The genial Chris. has made a host of friends, even amongst the fat men of the Cape, and is being fêted like a prince. Two or three such trips, and he will be greatly tempted to declare himself an Independent Radical, and defy the machine with its clamped pledge.

They say of an Australian girl who married in England: "She married that funny little foreigner because he was a Count, and now he doesn't."

Houses & Land For Sale.

McGEORGE BROS., Auctioneer and Estate Agents, High street, Preston, and 858 Sydney road, Brunswick (Moreland tram terminus), offer the following properties For Sale.

PRESTON.—Owner must sell. Pretty brick villa, 6 rooms, newly renovated, every convenience, 40 x 120, best residential street, £450. Worth inspection. McGeorge Bros., auctioneer, High street, Preston, and Brunswick.

PRESTON.—Lovely building sites in the Sheffield Estate in allotments 50 x 180 from £27. No deposit, repayments 9s monthly. Only few minutes from Regent station. Plans, McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Neat cottage, 4 rooms, conveniences, nicely situated, close to train, £175. Small deposit, extended terms. Others, lists forwarded. McGeorge Bros., auctioneer.

PRESTON.—Last chance. Only a few blocks left in the conveniently situated Post Office Estate. Allotments, 34 x 115, £17 each. £3 deposit, 1s 3d weekly. Adjoining post office and shire hall. Plans, McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Compact W.B. villa, 5 rooms, usual comforts. Land, 38 x 120, close to train, £200. £30 deposit, 8 years' terms. Rare chance. Cards to view from McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Station Estate. Magnificent building allotments, 50 x 119, £34 each. £2 deposit, 7 years' terms. Occupies the finest position in district. We advise immediate inspection. Plans, sole agents, McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Gentlemen's balcony residence, 7 rooms, every possible convenience, stabling, shedding, magnificent panoramic views, close to station. Absolute bargain, £700, terms. McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Executors realising. Lovely new Queen Anne villa, 6 large rooms, modern appointments, latest finish, stabling, coach-house, 77 x 135, close Regent station, £525. Absolutely best property in the district at the money. Cards to view from McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Regent's Park. Two grand building sites, each 56 x 144, close to train, free railway ticket area, 11/ foot. Plans, McGeorge Bros., auctioneer.

Ernest Lees,

ESTATE AGENT,

299 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE

(next "Leader" office).

I am gratified with the splendid support which the property owners and residents of this district have given me during the last year.

I am looking forward with confidence to even greater success during 1909.

My business is conducted on the soundest and cleanest lines, and while strenuous efforts are put forth to effect sales, no attempt is made to FOIST property upon purchasers This system has inspired confidence and almost invariably one purchaser has recommended a relation or friend to do business through me.

I shall be pleased to receive particulars of property for sale.

Notify me when your insurance business needs attention and leave the rest to me.

Before building consult me. I can save money for you and relieve you of much worry.

Allow me to collect your rent, invest your money, manage your auction sale, or insure your life in the A.M.P.

Does House Property PAY?

Well, that depends on the firm that does your business for you. Probably 95 per cent. of agents have very little practical knowledge of the construction or repairs of a house, and are deficient also of the legal training which should be possessed by a competent agent to enable him to properly discharge the important duties of his profession. That accounts for the absurd and serious mistakes made by incompetent agents which are liable to involve owners in costly law expenses and sometimes loss of property.

Thousands of pounds are lost by owners through allowing their property to go out of repair, which a practical agent could have saved them by reliable advice given them when it was first needed. If you wish your property to pay good interest on your money place it in the hands of THE PRACTICAL AGENTS,

Gordon Garrett & Co.,

the only agents in the district with legal and building trade experience. Specialists in House Property, Insurance Experts. We advance money to buy or build, supply plans, specifications, and estimates. If you wish to insure your house or furniture, just drop us a note so that we may call and quote you lowest rates.

No business is too small or too large for us to attend to. Note address—

GORDON GARRETT & CO.,

Architects, Builders, Estate, Insurance and Financial Agents,

583-585 High St., Upper Northcote

(near Thornbury station).

Houses built, cash or terms, materials and workmanship guaranteed. No "jerry building" catered for. Representatives for these districts for the new "Madera-Wet-Concrete" Buildings now coming into use in Australia. Better and cheaper than weatherboard or brick—more artistic and comfortable. Don't imagine because our buildings are well built and artistic they are necessarily expensive. We build well at a fair price to maintain a good reputation and secure further business. A well built, artistic home is cheaper than a jerry building. With its artistic design, harmoniously and tastefully blended decorations, and those little up-to-date conveniences that help to make a pleasant and comfortable home, it is the pride of its owner and friends, adds to his social distinction, and is a valuable property to sell or let—while Brown's house built by "Runemup," the "jerry builder," is a constant source of expense to him for repairs and a heavy loss if he wishes to sell.

Croxton Park Entertainments.

Croxton Park open-air management had again the misfortune to strike a bad night for their weekly entertainment on Wednesday evening last. A special programme is advertised for Wednesday next. On Friday evening, 12th inst., a grand dancing competition for children under 15 is announced. There will also be moving pictures.

Amusements.

BRIGHT CRICKET!

COME and SEE
the cream of the
FIRST GRADE JUNIORS,
FOOTSCRAY v. NORTH MELBOURNE
at
CROXTON RECREATION RESERVE
(neutral ground),
THIS AFTERNOON.

A GAME WORTH WATCHING.

NORTHCOTE ANNUAL TOWN

EXCURSION

To MENTONE,

TUESDAY NEXT, 9th inst.

at F. M. Soudd's Reserve.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY PROCLAIMED.

Train leave Croxton 7.38, 8.15, 8.37, 9; Northcote 7.40, 8 16, 8.39, 9 2; and Merri 7.45, 8.20, 8.43, and 9 6. Returning from Mentone 6.25, 6.35, 7.5, and 7.30 p.m.

Fares: Children under 16, 8d (including meals); senior scholars, 1/-; adults, 1/3.

NOTE.—Children, be sure to ask for refreshment coupons with railway tickets.

Splendid Programme of Sports. Open to all children in Northcote or attending any local school. Prizes will be presented after tea.

The Committee supplies refreshments for children only. Children must bring their own drinking cups.

Tickets obtainable from T. Thomson, news agent, High street south and central; O. Watson, news agent, corner High street and Normanby avenue; Frawley's Northcote Laundry, High street; W. H. Kay, Railway parade, and at State Schools.

Cr. A. Tharratt (Mayor), Hon. Treas.
Cr. A. Woolhouse, Hon. Secretary.

ALL SAINTS' PRESTON.

SOCIAL EVENING and CONCERT, Tuesday, 9th March, at 8 p.m. Music, songs, &c., by leading Melbourne and local artists.

Admission 1/. Children 6d.

CROXTON PARK RESERVE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING NEXT, 10th March.

SPECIAL PROGRAMME.

First Appearance of the Gwalia Novelty Band (15 performers). Best Programme of the season. Don't wait for the band selections on the ground. Concert will start at 8 p.m. punctually.

Should a Postponement be necessary the Concert will be held on Thursday evening.

On FRIDAY evening, March 12th, Grand Dancing Competition, under 15 years, Irish Jig. Entry free. Langley's Bioscope.

Particulars from— H. W. BALHARRY, Promoter.

YES, that's the place to go for a good night's enjoyment, at the Northcote Cycling Club's Opening Night of Series of SOCIALS in the Northcote Town Hall, FRIDAY, 12th March. Smart & Aumont's Band. Refreshments. Dancing 8 till 12. Gents 2/-. Ladies, 6d.

A. E. JOHNSTON, Hon. Sec.

Meetings.

PRESTON FOOTBALL CLUB.

The Annual Meeting of the above club will be held in the Shire Hall on Wednesday evening, 24th March, at 8 o'clock.

Nominations for office bearers to be in hands of secretary prior to the meeting, and must be signed by the candidate, proposer, and seconder. Same can be lodged at Messrs McGeorge Bros., High St., Preston.

Nominations may be withdrawn in writing four clear days prior to date of election.

W. H. SMITH,
Hon. Secretary.

PRESTON PUBLIC FREE AND LENDING LIBRARY.

A Meeting of the Committee in connection with the forthcoming Fair will be held in the Library Hall, Preston, on Thursday, 11th March, at 8 p.m. Ladies and gentlemen willing to assist are cordially invited to attend. The Executive Committee will meet at 7.30 the same evening.

ARCH. WILKINSON } Hon.
W. COLE } Secs.

LADIES' Orange Lodge No. 12, meets Tuesday evening at 8, Bradford Hall, South Preston. Social, 24th; admission 6d.

Local Government.

SHIRE OF PRESTON.

Applications are invited for appointment as Lamplighter, Ranger, and Inspector under the Dog Act, Health Acts, Pure Food Act, and Thistle Act, at a salary at the rate of £130 per annum and a commission of 20 per centum on all dog fees collected.

Personal canvass of councillors will disqualify.

Applications must be received by me not later than 4 p.m. on Monday, 15th March, 1909.

T. J. WITHRINGTON,
Shire Secretary.

Shire Office, Preston,
25th February, 1909.

SHIRE OF PRESTON.

TENDERS are invited, returnable up to 4 p.m. on Monday, March 15, for the supply of Maintenance Metal as hereunder:—

1. 250 cubic yards 2-inch, Sec. 1, High St.
2. 250 cubic yards 2-inch, Sec. 1, Plenty Rd.
3. 250 cubic yards 2-inch, Sec. 2, Epping Road.
4. 250 cubic yards 2½-inch, Sec. 2. Plenty Road.

Specifications, &c., at Shire Hall. Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

T. J. WITHRINGTON,
Shire Engineer.

SHIRE OF PRESTON.

REGISTRATION OF DOGS.

Notice is hereby given that all Dogs within the Shire of Preston must be Registered at this office on or before the 16th day of March, 1909. Any person having an unregistered dog after that date will be liable to be proceeded against in accordance with the Dog Act 1890.

G. H. HAMILTON,
Collector.

Municipal Offices,
High Street, Preston,

SHIRE OF EPPING.

Applications will be received at the Shire Hall, Epping, on Monday, 15th March, 1909, for the office of Poundkeeper; salary, £5 per annum.

By order,
JAMES RYAN,
Shire Secretary.

5th March, 1909.

H. ADAMS,

BUTCHER,

322 High Street,

NORTHCOTE.

LATE W. H. TACEY.

ONLY ONE QUALITY KEPT—

THE BEST.

The high standard of excellence, which made Mr. Tacey's name famous in this progressive district will still be maintained.

Telephone 114, Brunswick.

NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER FIRM.

Notices

I HEREBY give notice that I intend to apply to the Preston Shire Council, under Section 223 of the Health Act, for permission to make further extensions to my premises in Murray Road.

W. BRAITHWAITE.

Preston, Feb. 12th, 1909.

I HEREBY give notice that I intend to apply to the Preston Shire Council, under Section 223 of the Health Act, for permission to make further extensions to my premises in Gilbert Road.

R. STAPLES.

Preston, Feb. 25, 1909.

Wanted to Buy.

BOTTLES, Bones, Rags, Zinc, Lead, Brass and Copper. Highest price given. Cash on delivery. Letters receive prompt attention. H. Bishop, Darebin Rd., Northcote.

Societies

A.N.A.

AUSTRALIAN NATIVES!

Join the Northcote branch. Meetings held on alternate Thursday evenings, Town Hall, Westbourne Grove.

Interesting Syllabus arranged. Essays, Debates, Shooting Competitions, Harmony, &c., &c. The public invited to each meeting.

Low Contributions for Benefit Members. Funds rapidly increasing.

Next meeting—11th March.

Musical evening. Visit from Port Melb. and Flemington branches. Meet 7 30.

H. F. BATTEN, Sec., Westbourne grove.

Independent Order of Rechabites.

Star of Northcote Tent No. 217.

MEETINGS held at Rechabite Hall every alternate Thursday

Next Meeting—18th March.

Juveniles meet every alternate Friday.

BENEFITS—

Sick Pay—For 12 months, £1 a week, Following 6 months, 10/- a week. Afterwards during sickness, 5/- a week.

Funeral—£20 at death of member, £15 at death of member's wife (if insured).

FEES—

Benefit members, 1/- week upwards.
Honorary members, 1/- quarter,
Proposition Fee, 2/6.

J. NEWNHAM, Secretary.

PRESTON and NORTHCOTE

Live Stock Market.

POULTRY, FURNITURE, SUNDRIES.

Every TUESDAY at 1 o'clock sharp.

Send your Poultry to us, good prices obtained.

MESSRS NICOL, MILLER & Co. will hold regular sales at their new yards, Tram Terminus, Preston, of Cattle, Pigs, Horses, Vehicles, &c.

Clients are requested to notify us as early as possible of stock coming forward.

Auction Sales of Land, Houses, Furniture, Stock, &c., conducted in any part of the district at lowest rates.

Local agents for the Liverpool & London & Globe Fire and Accident Co. Assets exceed £11,000,000.

Furniture stored free and sold on commission.

Anything and everything.

Houses wanted For Sale and To Let. Several good clients waiting.

NICOL, MILLER & CO.,
AUCTIONEER,
LIVE STOCK SALESMEN,
TRAM TERMINUS, PRESTON.
Telephone 260, Brunswick.

Clifton Hill Produce Company,

259 QUEEN'S PARADE,

CLIFTON HILL,

DESIRE to announce to their clients and the public generally that they have decided to establish

Real Estate

and

Insurance (Fire & Life)

Agency in connection with their Produce business.

HOUSES and LAND FOR SALE or TO LET.

RENTS COLLECTED.

FIRE and LIFE INSURANCES EFFECTED.

TRUST MONIES TO LEND.

Chaff & General Produce

AT CURRENT RATES.

Yes! Yes! Yes!

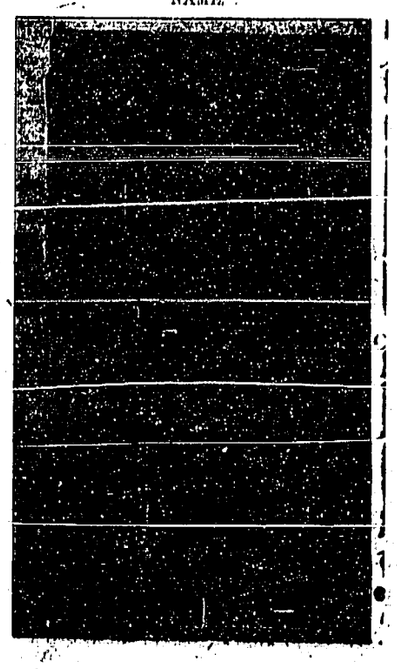
THIS IS SINCLAIR'S,

The PEOPLE'S BUTCHER,

THE FIRST BUTCHER IN NORTHCOTE TO GIVE YOU CHEAP MEAT.

THE MAN THAT GIVES SIXTEEN OZS. TO THE POUND.

THE MAN THAT PAYS HIS WAY AND TRADES IN HIS OWN NAME.



Business Announcements.

NORTHCOTE CHILDREN'S

PIC-NIC,

Tuesday Next, 9th March.

HATTAM & HATTAM,

DRAPERS,

will be

CLOSED.

Open till 9 p.m. Monday Night.

BEST'S BARGAIN FAIR!!

LAST WEEK OF SALE.
LAST WEEK OF SALE.

To make room for NEW SEASON'S GOODS we are making

SPECIAL REDUCTIONS

in all lines.

This gives you the opportunity of securing some

RARE BARGAINS.

For Example—

1/9 Lace Cuffs now 10½d
Good 6d & 9d Lace Trimmings now 3d & 3½d
Good Washing Prints, 2/11 dozen
1/9 Blouse Lengths, now 11½d

You can pick out money-savers by the dozen.

Miss Harley is now making New Season's Costumes. Call and See her for your Easter Fitting.

PLEASE NOTE.

WE CLOSE on Tuesday, 9th inst. (Northcote picnic).

BEST & CO.,

DRAPERS & MERCERS,

HIGH ST. UPPER NORTHCOTE.

F. G. SMITH,

DRAPERS, ETC.,

245 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.

RECORD SALE STILL ON.

SPECIALS FOR TO-DAY:

Men's Ready-to-Wear Clothing.
Boys' „ Suits.
Girls' „ Hats.
Ladies' „ Millinery.

Now is your opportunity to buy before we open up New Season's Goods.

Establishment CLOSED TUESDAY (Picnic Day).

PRESTON BOWLING CLUB.

OPENING OF THE NEW GREEN.

Invitations to the inaugural opening of the above club's green have been issued by the president (Lieut.-Col. Braithwaite) and Mrs. Braithwaite for this afternoon at 3.

Amongst those who will be present are Mr. J. Hume Cook, M.P., and Mr. G. C. Clausen, president of the V.B.A. The president of the shire (Cr. E Allchin) will declare the green open for play at 3 p.m. Rinks from Northcote, St. Kilda, Thornbury and Hawthorn City have signified their intention of being present, and altogether everything promises to be a great success.

DeGilio's band will discourse sweet music, and afternoon tea will be dispensed by Mrs W. Braithwaite and lady friends.

NORTHCOTE POLICE COURT.

MONDAY, MARCH 1.

[Before Dr. Cole, P.M., and Mr. F. J. Plant, J.P.]

Debt.

Alfred Tharratt v. Frank Parker. Money lent £1. Order for amount, with 5s costs

Same v. H. Newman. Goods sold and delivered £10 11s 6d. Order for amount, with 5s costs.

Playing "Two-up."

Fred. Hibbert and Thomas Bromley were charged with playing an illegal game, namely "two-up."

Constable Hayes stated that he saw the lads in company with four others playing the game off Dennis street, on February 6. They had been cautioned before this. Since then Hibbert had had the misfortune to lose one of his fingers.

On promising that they would not play the game again the case was adjourned for 16 weeks.

Riding on the Footpath.

For this offence Jas. Rodda, Alf. Allen and Roger Gilmour were each fined 5s.

Application for Reduction of a Fine.

James Campbell, who was recently fined £10 with £10 10s costs for using a shop in High street, for the purpose of betting, made application to have his fine reduced. He pointed out that he had never been in a court before, that the shop had been open only a few weeks, that the bets were very small and that this was the only instance where there had been such a large fine for a first offence. The Bench also were given the impression that it would not matter much to him (Campbell) what the fine was as others would pay it.

Dr. Cole replied that this Bench was not bound by what others did, and he might say there was one member of the Bench who thought the fine should be made the maximum of £100. They had to remember that this gambling brought ruin on hundreds of people and should be put down. Even if the bets were small it meant a lot out of the wages of working men. Further he did not think the Bench had any power to reduce a fine they had once imposed.

The applicant—I was told by the Crown Law Department you could.

The P.M.—Whoever told you that does not know the law. Our decisions can only be altered by a higher court on appeal. What, according to a letter we have received from the Crown Law Department you were advised to do was to come and ask us for time to pay. We understand you are willing to pay £20 down and the balance in instalments of £3 a month.

Campbell—Yes.

The application as to the terms was granted.

Northcote Horticultural Society

The monthly meeting was held in the town hall on Tuesday, the 2nd inst. A discussion on the treatment of dahlia plants for the production of show blooms elicited the fact that the red spider is playing havoc in most gardens. The recent spell of warm weather has favoured the spread of the pest, which is very difficult to get rid of. The remedy recommended to keep it in check is frequent spraying of the plants overhead with clear water. Plants affected beyond recovery should be cut down to the ground and fresh growths encouraged in the hope of getting blooms late in the season. Roses were said to be making satisfactory growth, and a good autumn display of the queen of flowers appears to be assured. It was decided to hold the autumn show in the town hall on the 14th April, and schedules of prizes were ordered to be printed and distributed. The monthly competitions resulted as follows, Mr. Shade acting as judge:—Mrs. Lehrke, cut flowers, 3 pts.; Mr. Esler, 4 roses, 4 pts; Mr. Esler, collection geraniums, 3 pts.; Mr. Dunn, cut flowers, 3 pts.; Mr. Dunn, 3 roses, 3 pts. Mr. Shade staged for exhibition only a fine collection of dahlias.

Northcote Poultry and Pigeon Society.

The seventh annual young stock show of the above was held last Saturday, 27th, in Northcote town hall, there being a fair entry, and the quality of birds up to former years. The birds were exhibited in the new coops of T. G. Collas, of Seymour, and for appearance and cleanliness and labour-saving they are unsurpassed. The attendance was good. Mr. G. Harvey judged all breeds and gave general satisfaction.

PRIZE WINNERS:

Dorking.—Cockerel, H. Frost 1; pullet, H. Frost 1.

Black orpington.—Cockerel, J. Alder 1, H. Frost 2 and 3.

Black orpington.—Pullet, C. D. Hook 1 and special, H. Frost 2, J. Alder 3.

Buff Orpington.—Cockerel, H. Frost 1; pullet, H. Frost 1 and 2.

White orpington.—Cockerel, G. Brotherton 1, T. Dower 2.

White orpington.—Pullet, G. Brotherton 1 and 2, C. R. Swift 3, B. O'Connor v.h.c.

Silver wyandotte.—Pullet, H. Frost 1.

Golden wyandotte.—Pullet, C. R. Swift 1.

Game, all varieties.—S. W. Bryan.

Andalusian.—Cockerels and pullets, J. A. James, of Wangaratta, took all prizes.

Minorca.—Cockerel, J. Shopland 1 and special.

Minorca.—Pullet, E. Almond 1.

White leghorn.—Cockerel, C. D. Hook 1, A. C. Mayfield 2 and 3, T. Dower v.h.c.

White leghorn.—Pullet, C. D. Hook 1 and 2 and v.h.c., G. Brotherton 3, C. E. Dickason v.h.c.

Brown leghorn.—Cockerel, E. Dobell 1 and 3, R. Briggs 2.

Brown leghorn.—Pullet, R. Briggs 1 and 2.

R.C. brown.—Cockerel, S. E. Blackburn 1, A. Raymond 2.

Ancona.—Pullet, J. Alder 1.

Pekin.—Drake, S. E. Blackburn 1, W. H. Smith 2; duck, S. E. Blackburn 1 and special, W. H. Smith 2.

Buff orpington.—Drake, H. McKenzie 1; duck, H. McKenzie 1.

Trio, cockerel and two pullets.—J. Shopland 1.

Export class.—S. E. Blackburn 1.

Nature How Much, Man How Little.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—I am a recent arrival in the elevated suburb of Northcote. What a beautiful spot it is! Fashioned by Nature to be the nursery of thousands of healthy citizens, endowed with vitality to carry forward the strenuous battle which we must continue to wage until our beloved country is in the forefront of nations.

I have stood on the commanding height of Rucker's Hill and let my gaze wander over the multitudinous house tops until it rested upon that serenely flowing stream which bounds our town upon the western side. All is beautiful! Then, strolling through pleasant by ways to Prospect grove, I have looked my fill at the glorious eastern prospect where the Yarra runs its tortuous course seawards, picking up *en route* the beautiful Darebin. Yes, truly all is beautiful! Nature has indeed been prodigal of her gifts. How has "vile man" behaved? Most abominably. "Vile man' as represented by "the powers that be" has allowed the highways and byways to be made so as to give the poorest result—No beauty, convenience.

I am much puzzled to know the necessity for the deep channels on either side of our High street. Can modern engineering skill devise no underground drain to carry away excess water? At the present time I should imagine vehicular traffic is much incommoded by these fearful ravines. In the short space of a month I have counted 14 horses unable to extricate their loads from those channels. If I had a more facile pen I would try to cite a few more instances where "vile man," through his representatives, has committed and permitted similar atrocities.—Yours, &c.

SIMPLE SUBURBANITE.

CRICKET.

NORTHCOTE V. STH. MELBOURNE.

A CONTRAST IN WICKETS.

This match was commenced on February 20th, when South scored 339 runs for the loss of 5 wickets, and was continued on Saturday last on a wicket which had apparently received no preparation for the week and was thoroughly saturated with the morning's rain. McCormack declared his innings closed and at 3.47 Northcote commenced their first innings and succeeded in knocking up 92 runs, of which Webb made 26, Billings 22 and Richardson 22, the last-named giving a very fair display and made his 22 whilst Billings made 5. Rose was the most successful bowler, getting 3 for 12, and these wickets were all obtained off his last four balls. Vernon obtained 4 for 22. With 50 minutes to go Northcote commenced their second innings, the wicket being if anything a trifle worse after being rolled, and lost 3 wickets for 28. Rose again bowled well, securing 2 for 8, whilst Vernon got 1 for 9. The wicket on the first day was as fast and true as a wicket could be, and on the second day just as slow and treacherous, whilst the grass in the out-field was very long. Scores—

NORTHCOTE—First Innings.

Webb, c Sub. b Horsburgh	26
Rowe, c Sub. b Vernon	1
Buckley, b Vernon	0
Billings, b Rose	22
Brown, b Vernon	4
Bailey, c Dea b Vernon	3
O'Leary, b Vernon	2
Richardson, c Dea b McCormack	22
Wilkinson, not out	0
Mitchell, b Rose	0
Plant, l.b.w. Rose	0
Sundries	12
Total	92

Second Innings.

Webb, b Rose	8
Rowe, c Kenny b Rose	2
Wilkinson, c Kenny b Vernon	1
Billings, not out	8
Rickardson, not out	4
Sundries	5
3 wkts. for	28

South Melbourne, 5 wkts. for 339, innings declared closed.

NORTHCOTE V. STH. MELBOURNE.

SECOND ELEVENS.

These teams continued their match at the Northcote Park under somewhat unfavorable conditions for the local team, as South had kept the wickets the whole of the former Saturday and compiled 283 for the loss of 9 wickets. Williams 92, Crawford 72, End 28 not out, were the principal contributors. Bedford was the most successful bowler for Northcote, getting 4 for 19. As the wicket was in a bad state South did not continue their innings and Northcote were disposed of in the first innings for 65, and in the second 139 Barrell 10 and 36, Begg 18 and 29, Pratt 13 and 23, Muce 11 and 20. South won by an innings and 29 runs and secured 3 3-point win.

TO-DAY'S MATCH.

Northcote had arranged to take a trip to Doncaster, but the match has been cancelled. A match will take place at the Northcote park, Northcote v. All Comers, starting at 2.30.

Saturday, 13th.—Northcote will play the Riddell's Creek at Riddell. Members wishing to accompany the team please notify secretary.

PRESTON V. EAST BRUNSWICK.

The above match was started last Saturdas on the new Brunswick ground, and as the rain had soddened the new turf play could not start until about 3.30. Haysom, Preston's captain, won the toss and sent the East into bat, but Preston soon found how sadly they missed their champion bowler, Jim Paterson, who could not play. The innings closed for 157 runs (Winn 53, Lowe 24; C. Robinson 3 for 13, W. Haysom 3 for 56). The catching and fielding of the Preston was far below the usual standard. Preston have lost 2 wickets for 57 (Dillon 17 not out). Play will be resumed to-day.

Preston Presbyterians, 51 (Boyd 16, E. Hughes 15, L. Freeman 12) and 1 for 9 v. Heidelberg, 64 (R. Paterson 5 for 33 and A. Jones 4 for 7).

Northcote Presbyterian A v. Dorcas St. Scores—Northcote, 114 and 3 for 45 (Shaud 17 & 10, Stalker 17, Adams 24, Howie 18, Richardson 14 not out); Dorcas St., 95 (Teasdale 5 for 12, including hat trick; Richardson 3 for 12). The match will be continued to-day at Northcote.

The match between Northcote Presbyterian B & St. Andrew's was commenced at Carlton last Saturday. Scores—Northcote, 117 (Landy 59, McKenzie 22, Hayes 21); St. Andrew's, 7 for 55 (Thomson 4 for 28).

Preston Methodist v. Albert Park. Scores—Preston, 100 and 3 for 32 (Bussell 44, Harker 18, Stephenson 20); Albert Park, 164 (Harker 5 for 37, Freeman 2 for 25). The match will be concluded to-day.

Everleigh were defeated by Richmond Maccotte by 42 runs. Everleigh play Dellmont at Preston to-day.

Pitt's tannery v. Michael Hellenstein's. Scores—Pitt's, 74 and 6 for 156 (Roberts 9 and 25, Saunders 9 and 100 not out, the highest individual score of the competition); Hellenstein's, 72 (Cochrane 5 for 28, Bowden 3 for 22, Milne 2 for 15). There will be no play to-day owing to the tanners' and curriers' picnic.

South Preston Methodist play North Melbourne at Preston to day.

Be sure you ask for and see that you get **T. W. SHERRIN'S** Improved Match Cricket Balls—absolutely the strongest made ball the world produces. Look for the name and "Kangaroo Brand" which are gold stamped on each ball. Manufactory: 32 and 34 Wellington St., Collingwood. Sherrin's cricket balls are used by the Eastern Suburbs and all the Leading Clubs of Melbourne in pennant matches; also ordered by the trustees of the Sydney cricket ground, and used throughout the Commonwealth by the leading clubs.

Madame Melba promises to become an energetic advertising medium for Australia. "Do you know," she says, "I intend during this trip to write a series of articles on Australia for English and American publications. People of other lands have no idea of the possibilities of this great country." That is kind, but if Melba is really desirous of pushing Australia ahead, she should write songs about the Commonwealth, not articles, and she should sing them herself in the great centres of civilisation.

NORTHCOTE

Property Exchange.

Stott & Bastings

(H. E. BASTINGS, W. S. STOTT),

Auctioneer,

Sworn Valuer,

Estate & Insurance Agents.

RENTS COLLECTED.

BUILDINGS ARRANGED.

MONEY TO LEND ON DEEDS.

OFFICES:

207 High St., Northcote.

521 High St., Upper Northcote.

Station St., Fairfield (on station).

381 High St., Preston (opp. Shire Hall)

Heidelberg Road, Alphington.

Tel. 1976.

BOWLING.

NORTHCOTE COUNCIL v. PRESTON COUNCIL.

The challenge issued by the Northcote councillors to their *confreres* at Preston to a "friendly joust at bowls" at Northcote green on Wednesday next has been accepted by Preston on the following terms:—

ACCEPTANCE OF YE CHALLENGE.

Baron Allchin, his followers and scribes rejoice greatly because of ye opportunity afforded them by His Worship ye Earle Tharratt to take up ye solid bowl at ye village green, and can assure ye inhabitants of ye earldom that the bowl will go round at a great speed whereby the aforesaid village green will be strewn with dead marines ere ye orb of day sinks to rest beneath the distant Yon Yangs.

Therefore ye Baron, with the aid of his chief scribe, picketh up ye gauntlet and thinketh it will require many bowls to quench the fire of his followers.

By order,

WITHY, ye Scribe.
HAMMY, ye Publican.

God Save ye Kynge.

One signing himself "Preston Barracker," on reading the Northcote challenge in the *Leader* last week, was moved to write the following:—

"Ye champions of cricket"—
"They" lost at the wicket—
Still a name they are bent on regaining.
Your win was a tussle,
Now rub up your muscle,
And see, like good chaps, to your training.

Do they comfort their souls
They can beat you at bowls?
Now just heed me, and hearken, and heed
You're their victors at ball— (you!
And you're Prestonites all—
And the conquering Baron shall lead you.

Then you're certain to win,
You're all pluck and All-chin,
And the chin marks you're stock of decision:
Egad, Tharratt 'll stare
When your bowls everywhere
Toddle home with the nicest precision.

Then arise in your strength
On the glorious tenth—
Think of prestige and Preston and beauty,
And we'll stake half-a-crown
That from Baronwards down
Every hero remembers his duty.

You're o'ermatched, not out-classed,
But think of your past;
And another small matter we'd note is,
We'd beg leave to say
Wear no braces that day,
Only belts for the scalps of the "Cotles."

Four-rink pennant.—Thornbury v. Auburn Heights, played at Thornbury green on Saturday last.

Auburn Heights, 128.

1. Henderson, McGann, Boyd, Nicholson	25
2. Clyne, Brown, Gilchrist, Noel	32
3. Estes, Mackay, Lamborn, Rodda	32
4. Barrow, Kerr, Pearson, Phillips	39

Thornbury, 73.

1. Harris, Robb, Workman, Stephens	24
2. Boyd, Johnson, Jarrett, Gilpin	21
3. Pike, E. Ingham, H. Smith, Whalley	17
4. Meakin, Downing, Dickacon, King	11

Northcote v. Moreland, played at Moreland on Saturday last.

Northcote, 123.

1. McIntosh, Brown, Readle, Bennell	40
2. Treleaven, Hayes, Magnus, Schiefferdecker	35
3. Allen, Marsden, Tylor, Plant	24
4. Bailey, Saunders, Lawrence, Mitchell	24

Moreland, 68

1. Roberts, sen., Homewood, Hardham, jun., Hardham, sen.	19
2. Whiteborn, Barkham, Pigdon, Sadler	18
3. Miller, Panther, White, Hartley	18
4. E. Oaten, Hall, Roberts, Jones	20

Three-rink pennant.—North Fitzroy B v. Thornbury, played on the Carlton green on Saturday last.

North Fitzroy, 87.

1. Naunton, Gilchrist, Winneke Batson	29
2. Smalley, McColl, Wynblath, Beveridge	20
3. Dare, Green, White, O'Connell	38

Thornbury, 59.

1. Fairclough, Tobin, Brown, Doran	15
2. McDougall, Denny, Farley, Harry	32
3. Robinson, Littlejohn, Cogle, Launder	12

THORNBURY PROGRESSIVE RINK TOURNAMENT.

The following is the result of the fifth section, played on Thursday evening:—

Alexander, Dempsey, Butcher, Johnson (Collingwood)	won 10 ends
Cant, White, Schulz, Moller (North Fitzroy)	" 9 "
King, Oxlade, Jones, Bunting, (Prince's Park)	" 9 "
Green, Woods, Bowman, McWilliams (N. Fitzroy)	" 8 "
Fairclough, Denny, Brown, Brown (Thornbury)	" 5 "
Storie, Allan, Dedman, Glew (Prince's Park)	" 4 "

Thornbury played a three-rink friendly match against Lilydale on Wednesday on the Thornbury green.

Thornbury, 70.

1. Miss King, Miss Adams, Boyd, Gilpin	25
2. Meakin, Downing, Launder, King	17
3. Bulmer, Tobin, Workman, Stephens	28

Lilydale, 43.

1. Artis, James, Artis, Adam	17
2. Oliver, Holycak, Oliver, Phillips	12
3. Wilson, Cook, Wilson, Kay	13

Thornbury four-rink played Essendon on Tuesday night last. This was a close contest, won by the visitors by 3 points.

C. Mitchell (Northcote) won his game in the champion of champions contest on Wednesday—21—20. J. S. Whalley (Thornbury) in the same tournament lost—31—27.

Thornbury three-rink team play Prince's Park at Thornbury to-day, and a two-rink team will play Essendon Rovers at Thornbury.

On Tuesday night Thornbury plays a three rink match with Studley Park and a two-rink match with Kew on the Thornbury green.

On Thursday night the fourth section of the progressive rink tournament, which was postponed from February 25th, will be played.

To-day Northcote three-rink play the S.M.C.C. Rovers at Northcote. The 4 rink team is disengaged. The officials of the club will attend the opening of the Preston green.

John Christian Watson, M.H.R., who resigned the leadership of the Federal Labour party, is having a real good time in South Africa. If anyone thought he went down there for a business holiday he or she must have made a mistake. The genial Chris. has made a host of friends, even amongst the fat men of the Cape, and is being feted like a prince. Two or three such trips, and he will be greatly tempted to declare himself an Independent Radical, and defy the machine with its clamped pledge.

They say of an Australian girl who married in England: "She married that funny little foreigner because he was a Count, and now he doesn't."

Houses & Land For Sale.

McGEORGE BROS., Auctioneer and Estate Agents, High street, Preston, and 358 Sydney road, Brunswick (Moreland tram terminus), offer the following properties For Sale.

PRESTON.—Owner must sell. Pretty brick villa, 6 rooms, newly renovated, every convenience, 40 x 120, best residential street, £450. Worth inspection. McGeorge Bros., auctioneer, High street, Preston, and Brunswick.

PRESTON.—Lovely building sites in the Sheffield Estate in allotments 50 x 180 from £27. No deposit, repayments 9/ monthly. Only few minutes from Regent station. Plans, McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Neat cottage, 4 rooms, conveniences, nicely situated, close to train, £175. Small deposit, extended terms. Others, lists forwarded. McGeorge Bros., auctioneer.

PRESTON.—Last chance. Only a few blocks left in the conveniently situated Post Office Estate. Allotments, 34 x 115, £17 each. £3 deposit, 1s 3d weekly. Adjoining post office and shire hall. Plans, McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Compact W.B. villa, 5 rooms, usual comforts. Land, 38 x 120, close to train, £200. £30 deposit, 8 years' terms. Rare chance. Cards to view from McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Station Estate. Magnificent building allotments, 50 x 119, £34 each. £2 deposit, 7 years' terms. Occupies the finest position in district. We advise immediate inspection. Plans, sole agents, McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Gentlemen's balcony residence, 7 rooms, every possible convenience, stabling, shedding, magnificent panoramic views, close to station. Absolute bargain, £700, terms. McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Executors realising. Lovely new Queen Anne villa, 6 large rooms, modern appointments, latest finish, stabling, coach-house, 77 x 135, close Regent station, £525. Absolutely best property in the district at the money. Cards to view from McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Regent's Park. Two grand building sites, each 56 x 144, close to train, free railway ticket area, 11/ foot. Plans, McGeorge Bros., auctioneer.

Ernest Lees,

ESTATE AGENT,

299 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE
(next "Leader" office).

I am gratified with the splendid support which the property owners and residents of this district have given me during the last year.

I am looking forward with confidence to even greater success during 1909.

My business is conducted on the soundest and cleanest lines, and while strenuous efforts are put forth to effect sales, no attempt is made to FOIST property upon purchasers This system has inspired confidence and almost invariably one purchaser has recommended a relation or friend to do business through me.

I shall be pleased to receive particulars of property for sale.

Notify me when your insurance business needs attention and leave the rest to me.

Before building consult me. I can save money for you and relieve you of much worry.

Allow me to collect your rent, invest your money, manage your auction sale, or insure your life in the A.M.P.

Does House Property PAY?

Well, that depends on the firm that does your business for you. Probably 95 per cent. of agents have very little practical knowledge of the construction or repairs of a house, and are deficient also of the legal training which should be possessed by a competent agent to enable him to properly discharge the important duties of his profession. That accounts for the absurd and serious mistakes made by incompetent agents which are liable to involve owners in costly law expenses and sometimes loss of property.

Thousands of pounds are lost by owners through allowing their property to go out of repair, which a practical agent could have saved them by reliable advice given them when it was first needed. If you wish your property to pay good interest on your money place it in the hands of THE PRACTICAL AGENTS,

Gordon Garrett & Co.,

the only agents in the district with legal and building trade experience. Specialists in House Property, Insurance Experts. We advance money to buy or build, supply plans, specifications, and estimates. If you wish to insure your house or furniture, just drop us a note so that we may call and quote you lowest rates.

No business is too small or too large for us to attend to. Note address—

GORDON GARRETT & CO.,
Architects, Builders, Estate, Insurance and Financial Agents,
583-585 High St., Upper Northcote
(near Thornbury station).

Houses built, cash or terms, materials and workmanship guaranteed. No "jerry building" catered for. Representatives for these districts for the new "Madera-Ferro-Concrete" Buildings now coming into use in Australia. Better and cheaper than weatherboard or brick—more artistic and comfortable. Don't imagine because our buildings are well built and artistic they are necessarily expensive. We build well at a fair price to maintain a good reputation and secure further business. A well built, artistic house is cheaper than a jerry building. With its artistic design, harmoniously and tastefully blended decorations, and those little up-to-date conveniences that help to make a pleasant and comfortable home, is is the pride of its owner and friends, adds to his social distinction, and is a valuable property to sell or let—while Brown's house built by "Bunemup," the "jerry builder," is a constant source of expense to him for repairs and a heavy loss if he wishes to sell.

Croxton Park Entertainments.

Croxton Park open-air management had again the misfortune to strike a bad night for their weekly entertainment on Wednesday evening last. A special programme is advertised for Wednesday next. On Friday evening, 12th inst., a grand dancing competition for children under 15 is announced. There will also be moving pictures.

Amusements.

BRIGHT CRICKET!

COME and SEE
the cream of the
FIRST GRADE JUNIORS,
FOOTSCRAY v. NORTH MELBOURNE
at
CROXTON RECREATION RESERVE
(neutral ground),
THIS AFTERNOON.

A GAME WORTH WATCHING.

NORTHCOTE ANNUAL TOWN

EXCURSION

To MENTONE,
TUESDAY NEXT, 9th inst.
at F. M. Scudd's Reserve.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY PROCLAIMED.

Train leave Croxton 7.38, 8.15, 8.37, 9; Northcote 7.40, 8 16, 8.39, 9 2; and Merri 7.45, 8.20, 8.43, and 9 6. Returning from Mentone 6.25, 6.35, 7.5, and 7.30 p.m.

Fares: Children under 16, 8/ (including meals); senior scholars, 1/; adults, 1/3.

NOTE.—Children, be sure to ask for refreshment coupons with railway tickets.

Splendid Programme of Sports. Open to all children in Northcote or attending any local school. Prizes will be presented after tea.

The Committee supplies refreshments for children only. Children must bring their own drinking cups.

Tickets obtainable from T. Thomson, news agent, High street south and central; C. Watson, news agent, corner High street and Normanby avenue; Frawley's Northcote Laundry, High street; W. H. Kay, Railway parade, and at State Schools.

Cr. A. Tharratt (Mayor), Hon. Treas.
Cr. A. Woolhouse, Hon. Secretary.

ALL SAINTS' PRESTON.

SOCIAL EVENING and CONCERT, Tuesday, 9th March, at 8 p.m. Music, songs, &c., by leading Melbourne and local artists.

Admission 1/. Children 6d.

CROXTON PARK RESERVE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING NEXT, 10th March.
SPECIAL PROGRAMME.

First Appearance of the Gwalia Novelty Band (15 performers.). Best Programme of the season. Don't wait for the band selections on the ground. Concert will start at 8 p.m. punctually.

Should a Postponement be necessary the Concert will be held on Thursday evening.

On FRIDAY evening, March 12th, Grand Dancing Competition, under 16 years, Irish Jig. Entry free. Langley's Bioscope. Particulars from— H. W. BALHARRY, Promoter.

YES, that's the place to go for a good night's enjoyment, at the Northcote Cycling Club's Opening Night of Series of SOCIALS in the Northcote Town Hall, FRIDAY, 12th March. Smart & Aumont's Band. Refreshments. Dancing 8 till 12. Gents 2/. Ladies, 6d.

A. E. JOHNSTON, Hon. Sec.

Meetings.

PRESTON FOOTBALL CLUB.

The Annual Meeting of the above club will be held in the Shire Hall on Wednesday evening, 24th March, at 8 o'clock.

Nominations for office bearers to be in hands of secretary prior to the meeting, and must be signed by the candidate, proposer, and seconder. Same can be lodged at Messrs McGeorge Bros., High St., Preston.

Nominations may be withdrawn in writing four clear days prior to date of election.

W. H. SMITH,
Hon. Secretary.

PRESTON PUBLIC FREE AND LENDING LIBRARY.

A Meeting of the Committee in connection with the forthcoming Fair will be held in the Library Hall, Preston, on Thursday, 11th March, at 8 p.m. Ladies and gentlemen willing to assist are cordially invited to attend. The Executive Committee will meet at 7.30 the same evening.

ABOR. WILKINSON } Hon.
W. COLE } Secs.

LADIES' Orange Lodge No. 12, meets Tuesday evening at 8, Bradford Hall, South Preston. Social, 24th; admission 6d.

Local Government.

SHIRE OF PRESTON.

Applications are invited for appointment as Lamplighter, Ranger, and Inspector under the Dog Act, Health Acts, Pure Food Act, and Thistle Act, at a salary at the rate of £130 per annum and a commission of 20 per centum on all dog fees collected.

Personal canvass of councillors will disqualify.

Applications must be received by me not later than 4 p.m. on Monday, 15th March, 1909.

T. J. WITHRINGTON,
Shire Secretary.

Shire Office, Preston,
25th February, 1909.

SHIRE OF PRESTON.

TENDERS are invited, returnable up to 4 p.m. on Monday, March 15, for the supply of Maintenance Metal as hereunder:—

1. 250 cubic yards 2-inch, Sec. 1, High St.
2. 250 cubic yards 2-inch, Sec. 1, Plenty Rd.
3. 250 cubic yards 2-inch, Sec. 2, Epping Road.
4. 250 cubic yards 2½-inch, Sec. 2. Plenty Road.

Specifications, &c., at Shire Hall. Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

T. J. WITHRINGTON,
Shire Engineer.

SHIRE OF PRESTON.

REGISTRATION OF DOGS.

Notice is hereby given that all Dogs within the Shire of Preston must be Registered at this office on or before the 16th day of March, 1909. Any person having an unregistered dog after that date will be liable to be proceeded against in accordance with the Dog Act 1890.

G. H. HAMILTON,
Collector.

Municipal Offices,
High Street, Preston,

SHIRE OF EPPING.

Applications will be received at the Shire Hall, Epping, on Monday, 15th March, 1909, for the office of Poundkeeper; salary, £5 per annum.

By order,
JAMES RYAN,
Shire Secretary.

5th March, 1909.

H. ADAMS,

BUTCHER,

322 High Street,

NORTHCOTE.

LATE W. H. TACEY.

ONLY ONE QUALITY KEPT—
THE BEST.

The high standard of excellence, which made Mr. Tacey's name famous in this progressive district will still be maintained.

Telephone 114, Brunswick.

NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER FIRM.

Notices

I HEREBY give notice that I intend to apply to the Preston Shire Council, under Section 223 of the Health Act, for permission to make further extensions to my premises in Murray Road.

W. BRAITHWAITE.

Preston, Feb. 12th, 1909.

I HEREBY give notice that I intend to apply to the Preston Shire Council, under Section 223 of the Health Act, for permission to make further extensions to my premises in Gilbert Road.

R. STAPLES.

Preston, Feb. 25, 1909.

Wanted to Buy.

BOTTLES, Bones, Rags, Zinc, Lead, Brass and Copper. Highest price given. Cash on delivery. Letters receive promptattention. H. Bishop, Darebin Rd., Northcote.

Societies

A.N.A.

AUSTRALIAN NATIVES!

Join the Northcote branch. Meetings held on alternate Thursday evenings, Town Hall, Westbourne Grove.

Interesting Syllabus arranged. Essays, Debates, Shooting Competitions, Harmony, &c., &c. The public invited to each meeting. Low Contributions for Benefit Members. Funds rapidly increasing.

Next meeting—11th March.

Musical evening. Visit from Port Melb. and Flemington branches. Meet 7 30.

H. F. BATTEN, Sec., Westbourne grove.

Independent Order of Rechabites.

Star of Northcote Tent No. 217.

MEETINGS held at Rechabite Hall every alternate Thursday
Next Meeting—18th March.
Juveniles meet every alternate Friday.
BENEFITS—
Sick Pay—For 12 months, £1 a week.
Following 6 months, 10/ a week.
Afterwards during sickness, 5/ a week.
Funeral—£20 at death of member.
£15 at death of member's wife (if insured).
FEES—
Benefit members, 1/ week upwards.
Honorary members, 1/ quarter.
Proposition Fee, 2/6.
J. NEWNHAM, Secretary.

PRESTON and NORTHCOTE

Live Stock Market.

POULTRY, FURNITURE, SUNDRIES,
Every TUESDAY at 1 o'clock sharp.
Send your Poultry to us, good prices obtained.

MESSRS NICOL, MILLER & Co. will hold regular sales at their new yards, Tram Terminus, Preston, of Cattle, Pigs, Horses, Vehicles, &c.

Clients are requested to notify us as early as possible of stock coming forward.

Auction Sales of Land, Houses, Furniture, Stock, &c., conducted in any part of the district at lowest rates.

Local agents for the Liverpool & London & Globe Fire and Accident Co. Assets exceed £11,000,000.

Furniture stored free and sold on commission.

Anything and everything.

Houses wanted For Sale and To Let. Several good clients waiting.

NICOL, MILLER & CO.,
AUCTIONEERS,
LIVE STOCK SALESMEN,
TRAM TERMINUS, PRESTON.
Telephone 260, Brunswick.

Clifton Hill Produce Company,

259 QUEEN'S PARADE,

CLIFTON HILL,

DESIRE to announce to their clients and the public generally that they have decided to establish

Real Estate

and

Insurance (Fire & Life)

Agency in connection with their Produce business.

HOUSES and LAND FOR SALE or TO LET.

RENTS COLLECTED.

FIRE and LIFE INSURANCES EFFECTED.

TRUST MONIES TO LEND.

Chaff & General Produce

AT CURRENT RATES.

Yes! Yes! Yes!

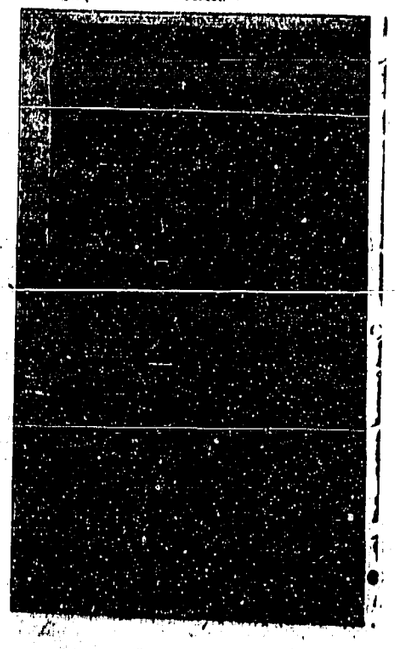
THIS IS SINCLAIR'S,

The PEOPLE'S BUTCHER,

THE FIRST BUTCHER IN NORTHCOTE TO GIVE YOU CHEAP MEAT.

THE MAN THAT GIVES SIXTEEN OZS. TO THE POUND.

THE MAN THAT PAYS HIS WAY AND TRADES IN HIS OWN NAME.



Business Announcements.

NORTHCOTE CHILDREN'S

PIC-NIC,

Tuesday Next, 9th March.

HATTAM & HATTAM,

DRAPERS,

will be

CLOSED.

Open till 9 p.m. Monday Night.

BEST'S BARGAIN FAIR!!

LAST WEEK OF SALE.
LAST WEEK OF SALE.

To make room for NEW SEASON'S GOODS we are making

SPECIAL REDUCTIONS
in all lines.

This gives you the opportunity of securing some

RARE BARGAINS.

For Example—
1/9 Lace Cuffs now 10½d
Good 6d & 9d Lace Trimmings now 3d & 3½d
Good Washing Prints, 2/11 dozen
1/9 Blouse Lengths, now 11½d

You can pick out money-savers by the dozen.

Miss Harley is now making New Season's Costumes. Call and See her for your Easter Fitting.

PLEASE NOTE.

WE CLOSE on Tuesday, 9th inst. (Northcote picnic).

BEST & CO.,

DRAPERS & MERCERS,

HIGH ST. UPPER NORTHCOTE.

F. G. SMITH,

DRAPERS, ETC.,

245 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.

RECORD SALE STILL ON.

SPECIALS FOR TO-DAY:

Men's Ready-to-Wear Clothing.
Boys' " Suits.
Girls' " Hats.
Ladies' " Millinery.

Now is your opportunity to buy before we open up New Season's Goods.

Establishment CLOSED TUESDAY (Picnic Day).

NORTHCOTE TOWN COUNCIL.

Monday, March 1.

Present:—Crs. Tharratt (mayor), Woolhouse, Robb, Hayes, Archbold, Harry, Mitchell, Williams, Bastings, McIntosh, Plant, Smith, Candy, Little, and Bainbridge.

Water for Edward Street.

The Metropolitan Board of Works wrote stating they could not recommend the extension of the water to Edward street, off Westgarth street.

Cr. Candy moved that a fresh application be made and backed up by Commissioner Mitchell. New houses were going up and others were proposed, so the street was in a different position.

Cr. Little seconded. Carried.

All Pork to be Branded.

The Board of Public Health wrote stating that in view of the amendment of the Meat Supervision Act making it compulsory to inspect and brand pork in every form, fresh or cured, no action need now be taken to prevent the sale of pigs' cheeks because they are unbranded.

Cr. Smith—I might say that everything that is killed has to be branded.

Cr. Plant—Quite right.

Cr. Williams—Sausages? (Laughter).

Cr. Smith — Yes, and you too. (Laughter).

Smith & Sons' License Approved.

The Public Health Department wrote approving of the renewal of the registration of Messrs Smith & Sons' slaughtering premises, Bastings-street, for the current year.

Cr. Plant moved that the registration be granted.—Carried.

Yarra National Park.

The City of Collingwood wrote asking this council to send two delegates to a conference to consider the desirability of asking the Government to permanently reserve for a National Park lands bordering on the Yarra River in certain localities.—Received.

Concessions from the Brick Company.

J. J. Osborne, secretary The Northcote Brick Company, wrote stating that his directors would agree to each and all of the three proposals contained in the council's letter's, i.e., the construction of a permanent track at Robb's parade, the use of the company's drain, and connection with the storm sewer at Langwill's parade, and the opening up of Victoria road through the company's land.

The mayor explained that there were certain conditions connected with the granting of these requests. As the Brick Co. were paying half the cost of pitching Robb's parade, he had undertaken that they should see and approve of the specifications and also to properly maintain the road after construction. And with regard to Langwell's parade they were in return for the drainage right to allow the water from the Brick Co. to go into the stormwater sewer the cost of the connection to be charged to the properties benefited. Getting the land free of cost for the continuing of Victoria road the council would, of course, undertake to pay all the cost of constructing the road.

Cr. Plant, in moving that all these terms and conditions entered into be ratified, heartily congratulated the mayor upon the successful result of his negotiations.

Crs. Candy and Smith added their congratulations, remarking that the negotiations in connection with Langwill's parade and the land for the roadway, which the mayor had just brought to a successful conclusion, had been going on for 20 years.

Wandering Geese Bye-Law.

Chas. H. Yardley wrote again complaining that the bye-law re wandering geese was not being enforced, though he had been informed when he last wrote that the matter had "been referred to the proper officers for attention." Perhaps this was another case of responsible officers not having time to attend to matters after having attention drawn to same; or was it a case of the council being afraid to carry out its bye-law? If so, it should be repealed.

Cr. Smith remarked that the geese mostly belonged to widows, and the officers of the council were not game to interfere with widows. (Laughter).

Cr. Plant moved that the officer carry out the bye-law. The geese were a nuisance and a dirty nuisance. The bye-law had been passed on account of complaints which came from the north.

Cr. Robb supported the motion.

The mayor said the officer was attending to his duty. Several geese had been destroyed right opposite Mr. Yardley's house.

Alleged "Useless Expenditure."

Chas. H. Yardley, Mansfield street, wrote drawing attention to what he called a "useless expenditure of ratepayers' money" in the manner in which the streets are cleaned and household refuse collected. On Monday the scavenger comes round with his horse and cart and collects the refuse from the houses, then on Tuesday the man with the broom sweeps the gutters, and leaves the stuff in heaps on the side of the road, and then sometimes two or three days after a man comes round with a horse, cart and long-handled shovel to clean same up if it has not been blown away in the meantime, and sometimes it is forgotten altogether till the next week comes round. Now, he thought a saving could be effected if a little common sense were used and making the one horse, cart and man follow after the sweepers instead of being a day ahead and another one, two or three days behind.

Cr. Hayes, chairman of the works committee, quoted figures to show that Mr. Yardley's scheme was impracticable. It was one of those cases where "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing."

Cr. Plant moved that the matter be referred to the works committee. Cr. Smith seconded.—Carried.

Bastings Street Accident.

J. Horne wrote stating that the footpath in Bastings street, just over the right-of-way where his wife fell is far from being in repair. The accident put him to a lot of expense, as a doctor was in attendance for five weeks. Referred to the finance committee on the motion of Crs. Plant and Candy.

Dealing with Tuberculosis.

The City of Collingwood wrote forwarding replies of other councils to the question whether they approved or otherwise of the conference scheme of providing for the treatment of tuberculosis.

Cr. Plant suggested that Cr. Archbold report.

Cr. Archbold—I have nothing to report only the apathy of councils was commented upon very extensively and very caustically.

Cr. Plant.—It's all very well to talk about apathy; but we don't understand the question.—To be considered with orders of the day.

West Ward Blots.

David F. Uren wrote calling attention to the bad condition of the drain on the north side of Gadd street, being 3 feet wide and full of stagnant water covered with green slime. To make matters worse it was usual to see a dozen ducks and geese disporting in the filthy waters Recently when their child was ill, Dr. Bradford told them to take it away from that drain if they wished it restored to health. Another foul spot they had to pass was in Beaconsfield parade.

Cr. Robb, who said he could endorse every word in this letter, moved that the matter be referred to the works committee, the inspector to report.—Carried.

Support Local Industry.

The Victorian Board of Directors A.N.A. wrote urging the council to support local industry in municipal contracts. It was pointed out that Australian enterprise and labour are able to supply almost all that is needed for the most important undertakings.

Cr. Smith—Is there anything we get outside that we can procure locally?

The mayor said it was the policy of the council to get everything they could locally, or at least in the State.

Overseer Resigns.

Chas. Broadhurst wrote resigning his position as sanitary inspector and overseer of works. He would like to be relieved of his duties as early as possible, as he found that his health was giving way.

The mayor moved that the resignation be received with regret. Mr. Broadhurst had told him that his health was not good. Carried.

Latham St. Right-of-Way.

A. E. Whitlock wrote expressing the fear that in the construction of the right-of-way at the rear of Latham street from Arthurton road sufficient fall had not been allowed to carry the drainage properly away.

The town clerk said he had mentioned the matter to the engineer, who told him that a fall of 8 inches in 150 feet had been provided for. However, he was going to look further into the matter.

Levels Wanted.

William Thake wrote asking for the levels of Dundas street, Pender's Grove, as he was going to fence his property. He would also like to know if the scavenger was going to call up there.—First part to be referred to engineer, second part to scavenger.

Public Works Committee.

Cr. Hayes (chairman) submitted the report recommending.—

1. That accounts amounting to £80 9s 2d be passed for payment.—Adopted.

2. Victoria road extension.—That the land lately acquired between Mitchell street and Clifton street be formed and channelled, and the balance of loan money provided expended in metal, the two wards interested to do the remainder of the metalling at their discretion out of their apportionments.

Cr. Hayes said he had great pleasure in moving the adoption of this clause, as it was a result they had been working for very many years.

Cr. Plant, in seconding the motion, suggested that a cheaper form of channelling might be used, which would allow of more of the money to be expended on metal.

Cr. Harry said the committee had gone thoroughly into the matter and the recommendation was the best they could make.

The clause was adopted.

The mayor moved that the town solicitor be instructed to prepare a title for the land given for the roadway. Carried.

3. Messrs Woodruff and Crosbie, re claim for extras on stormwater sewer contract, section No. 3,—That no action be taken therein.—Adopted.

4. Inspector and foreman of works, re arrangement of duties.—That applications be invited for the positions of inspector of nuisances and foreman of works.

Cr. Hayes moved the adoption of the clause.

The mayor said they had had this matter of re-adjusting the offices under consideration for some time and at a meeting of the sub-committee appointed for the purpose they had decided to recommend the appointment of an overseer of works at a salary of £156 per annum and a sanitary inspector combined, which would effect a saving of £72 per annum.

Crs. Plant and Smith questioned whether they could get a qualified meat inspector at £3 a week.

The mayor—We can try.

The clause was adopted.

5. Merri street channelling, north side, from Butler street to High street—That such work be carried out by day labor, the cost of same to be charged to the east ward apportionment.—Adopted.

6. Maintenance metal.—That tenders be invited for the supply of 1000 yards of hard broken metal.—Adopted.

7. Re McLachlan street roadway construction—That the town surveyor's report and estimate of cost be received and the matter referred to the committee of the whole.—Carried.

8. The town surveyor reported that he had issued 13 building permits and collected £15 6s 6d for same.—Adopted.

Finance and Parks Committee.

Cr. Plant (chairman) submitted the report recommending:—

1. That accounts amounting to £175 10s 2d be passed for payment.—Adopted.

2. High street rockeries.—To report that the gardener has recommended that a row of stone be placed along the borders of the lawns both sides of High street, between Walker street and Urquhart street, for protection of the lawns.—Adopted.

3. Ornamental trees, Rucker's Hill.—That in accordance with the recommendation of the gardener, a wooden box be placed round the roots of each of the trees, so that earth to cover the roots may be held in position; also that three rows of barbed wire be put on the fences to prevent trespassing in the enclosure.—Adopted.

4. Children's playground, Northcote Park.—That the offer of the Northcote South Ratepayers' Association to construct a sand bath 30 x 15, and erect two swings and a see-saw in the Northcote Park, be accepted, subject to their being placed in positions to be approved by the town surveyor.—Adopted.

Committee of the Council.

The mayor submitted the report recommending.

1. Construction of streets, Thornbury Park Estate.—That the plans and estimates of cost prepared by the town surveyor, be adopted, subject to arrangements being made with the owners of property west of St. George's road for the necessary drainage easement, and that the said plans and estimates be submitted to the Department of Lands and survey for approval.—Adopted.

Ordinary Business.

Cr. Candy moved that the matter of the roadway between the rockeries and the residences on the west side of High street be referred to the engineer to report to the works committee. At present it was in such a state that the residents could not get in and out with their traps.—Carried.

Cr. Bainbridge moved that Cr. Little, who was on the finance committee, be transferred to the works committee, and that Cr. Bastings take Cr. Little's place on the finance committee.

The mayor—What are your reasons?

Cr. Bainbridge—The south is a very large ward, and I will shortly be going away myself.

Cr. Robb seconded the motion.

Cr. Bastings said he understood it was usual for a newly-elected member to take the place of the retiring councillor; but he would not press his claims. He would leave himself in the hands of the Council.

Cr. Plant said he thought it was nothing but right that Cr. Bastings should take the retiring member's place Anyhow it was quite time enough to make the change Cr. Bainbridge proposed when Cr. Bainbridge went away. In the meantime the south would have two representatives on the committee.

Cr. Archbold said it was the usual thing for newly elected councillors to serve on the finance committee first.

Cr. Smith—That is when they are elected in August, not in March. If these changes were to be allowed he was going for one. Out of 22 years in the council he had had only two on the works committee—that was the reason the east ward was not better looked after. (Laughter.)

The motion was carried.

Cr. Smith again called attention to the dangerous condition of the asphalt on the south side of Bastings street, below Waterloo road.

The mayor moved that the engineer prepare plans for the pitching of Robb's parade, and also that plans be prepared for the construction of the right-of-way at the rear of Redmond's, and that the solicitor prepare the necessary easement.

Cr. Archbold seconded.—Carried.

Cr. Plant called attention to the disgraceful way the sewer holes in Bay View terrace had been filled up, the street now being unfit for traffic.—Referred to engineer.

Cr. Bainbridge brought under notice the culvert at Westgarth street, so frequently complained about by Mr. Rendle.

The mayor said he visited the place when the decking was off the culvert, and sure enough there was a most awful stench there. He would suggest that temporary relief be given and the engineer report as to a permanent remedy.

Cr. Archbold said he thought something permanent should be done, even if it was made a town matter.

Cr. Bainbridge said the Railway Department should contribute to the cost, as their land contributed a good deal of the drainage.

A motion on the lines suggested by the mayor was carried.

Cr. Little moved that attention be given to the approaches to the railway bridge off Merri parade.—Agreed to.

Cr. Bainbridge moved that a deputation wait on the railway authorities with a view of getting them to discontinue letting the land adjoining Mr. Rendle's, which was now to be fenced with a cyclone fence, as a grazing paddock. If this were done Mr. Rendle was prepared to plant the enclosure with trees and keep them in order.—Carried.

Orders of the Day.

1. Committee of council report, clause deferred. Report of conference re treatment of tuberculosis patients.

Cr. Archbold said the proposed cost of the establishment for the treatment of consumptives was £62,000, and the cost for maintenance would be from £12,000 to £15,000, which it was proposed to raise by a rate of ½d in the pound on the municipalities. This would mean £162 per annum for Northcote.

Cr. Plant considered this was a matter for the State and not the municipalities to take up, and moved to that effect.

Cr. Robb seconded.

Cr. Archbold said he was afraid if they waited for the Government to take the matter up they would all be dead. He moved an amendment that the council support the scheme approved by the conference.

Crs. Hayes and Smith having supported the motion, it was carried.

TEMPERANCE ITEMS.

Liberty of the subject.—This phrase must not be limited in its application to the working men, or even to the adult population. The children of the State are as truly citizens as the adults, and they are entitled to have their liberty to grow up unhindered by adverse influence. They are the principal sufferers by the excessive drinking of our nations, and the legislature has in this matter a special responsibility for their well-being. If this Bill (The Eng. Govt. Licensing Bill) can be shown to be helpful to the children it deserves the hearty support of the nation.—C. B. Wilson, B.A.

Poverty and the Housing Question.—We can leave property, and environment, and the housing question out of the argument, says Mr. G. R. Sims in "The Black Stain," for I shall have written in vain if I have not proved that poverty and housing questions are not largely responsible for the evil. The home conditions are in most cases of child neglect vile, but they are of the parents' own making. We have therefore, to recognise the dominant fact that where children are cruelly neglected there is in 90 per cent. of the cases a history of habitual intemperance in one or both parents.

Sir Victor Horsely and Moderate Drinkers.—Speaking recently in support of the Licensing Bill before the British Parliament, Sir Victor Horsley said he would speak as a medical practitioner. Last year at the British Medical Association meeting there was an interesting discussion got up to prove that a small quantity of alcohol taken daily would do no harm. One of the most eloquent speakers in favor of alcohol said of course if a man wanted to do any work, then if he took alcohol he must be a fool. The Prince of Wales said on his return from Canada some years ago that "England must wake up." How was England to wake up if it was to go on spending £160,000,000 to £180,000,000 every year on sleeping draughts? The medical profession know who were the "slackers" in the nation, from their work in the sick clubs. The so called moderate person had been proved to have more than double the sick pay out of his club than the teetotaller. What did that mean? That the temperate man was maintaining the man who was selfish, who preferred his own sensations to the welfare of the community at large.

If public sentiment is not ready, we must get it ready, and that cannot be done by surrendering to the enemy.—John G. Toolley.

FESTERED AND POISENED WOUNDS.

Suffered Great Agony—Forced to Give up Work—Ordinary Ointments Proved Useless—Zam-Buk Promptly Cures.

Nearly all festering sores are poisoned wounds are traceable to a neglected cut, scratch or sore. Whether your trouble be just a stubborn sore that refuses to heal, a large surface of skin that is covered with spreading disease, or a limb threatened with amputation because of poisoned flesh, Zam-Buk will prove cooling and cleansing, soothing and healing.

Mr. F. J. Barnett, of Perry Street, St. Peters, Sydney, says:—"I am in the employ of the Australian Gas Co., as gas-main layer, and while at work had the misfortune to injure my hand. I treated the wound rather carlessly thinking it would be alright, but it became worse and began to show signs of blood-poisoning. I applied several ointments but they did me no good. My hand grew worse and worse, and I suffered such agony that I was forced to give up work. It was at this time that Zam-Buk was recommended to me, and although I did not anticipate any good results after the repeated failures of other so-called cures, I thought I would give it a trial. I did so, and to my delight the wound immediately began to heal, and after only three weeks treatment with Zam-Buk I was able to return to my work, absolutely cured. I recommend Zam-Buk to fellow sufferers."

The purity and efficacy of Zam-Buk is known the world over. For the skin troubles or overday hurts of infancy and age, this ideal healing balm is natural and never-failing. Is 6d and 3s 6d per pot, of all chemists and stores.

W. Kitson,
PAINTER AND PAPERHANGER,
84 Charles Street,
NORTHCOTE SOUTH.
Superior Workmanship and none but the best materials used.
Estimates Given.
Rooms Papered with Art Paper from 4l.
Those contemplating getting their houses renovated cannot do better than consult the above.

WILLIAM COX,
CARRIAGE & MOTOR WORKS
Any make of Buggy, Cart, or Car repaired, painted, re-trimmed, etc., equal to new.
VEHICLES OF ANY STYLE BUILT TO ORDER.
Post cards and messages—Phone 109 Brunswick—promptly attended to.
ADDRESS:—
High & Westgarth Streets, Northcote.
Private Address—"Girsby Villa," 6 Herbert St.

Educational.

MISS EVELINE ROBERTS
Receives and Visits Pupils for
ELOCUTION.
(Registered by the Teachers and Schools Registration Board.)
CLASSES held at Bradford Hall, Preston, Guild Hall, Thornbury, Rechabite Hall, Yarraville.
Terms at Gladstone Street, Northcote.

MISS MAY WILKINSON,
TEACHER of ELOCUTION,
Receives Pupils at
"Urangeline,"
High Street, Northcote.
Terms on application.

Westleigh College
(1886).
MICHAEL ST., NORTH FITZROY.
and
HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
Principals: MISSES WESTGARTH, assisted by University Staff (visiting and Resident).
KINDERGARTEN TO JUNIOR PUBLIC.
CLASSES for Music, Singing, Drawing, Painting, Elocution, Gymnastics, Dancing.
Boarders' residence, High St., Northcote close to tram and train (Heidelberg line). Large grounds, tennis court, poultry, cow.
TERMS: Day Pupils, 15/- to 3 guineas; Boarders, 10 to 15 guineas. All terms equal length. Pupils entering during term charged accordingly.
Dressmaking Class, Wednesday Afternoon; 12 lessons 1 guinea.

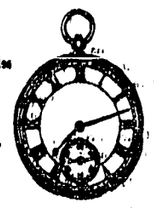
KING'S COLLEGE,
CLIFTON HILL
(near Northcote Bridge).
5 minutes from Heidelberg and Clifton Hill Trains, also Northcote Trams.
Principal:
G. COCHRANE, B.A., T.C.D., &c.
Vice-Principal:
T. COCHRANE (Melb. Univ.),
Assisted by Visiting Staff.
20 acre Play Ground. Gymnasium.
Fees: 1½ to 3½ Guineas.

Austral Business & Coaching College
HAS REMOVED
to
195 LITTLE COLLINS STREET
(back of George's).
Rooms built specially to comply with requirements of
BOARD OF HEALTH.
SPLENDID LIGHT & VENTILATION.
5 Scholarships. 5
See Daily Papers.
CLASSES
for
Public Service and Telegraph Messengers
Right through the vacation.
Telegraph Messengers, £1 1s till Exam.
Ideal Physical Conditions
Trained Teachers.
Call and see the Principal—
F. THOMAS, B.A.

MISS FLORENCE E. HODGES,
TEACHER of DRAWING and PAINTING
(late Pupil Douglas Richardson, Collins St.)
Terms, 1 Jessie St., South Northcote.

MISS C. GLADSTONE
(Gold Medallist),
CERTIFICATED TEACHER
of
PAINTING AND DRAWING,
Desires to intimate that Classes are being formed for Painting (in Oils and Water Colors) and Drawing.
Studio: Corner Rowe and Delbridge Sts., North Fitzroy.
Private address: Rushall Crescent, Nth. Fitzroy.
Evening Classes for Painting and Drawing are held.
Terms on application.

Notices

Wm. Walker,
WATCHMAKER
AND
JEWELLER
92 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE SOUTH.
Spectacles to Suit all Sights.

Watch Glasses and Keys Fitted.
WEDDING AND BIRTHDAY PRESENTS.
BROOCH PINS.

F. C. CORNISH
& Co.,
Cash Grocers,
255 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.
70lb. bag best 1A Sugar, 12/
28lb. bag best Flour, 2/4
Best New Currants, 6½d lb.
" " Sultanas, 7½d lb.
" " Lemon Peel, 5½d
" " Raisins, 6d lb.
Mildura " 4d lb.
Best soft shell Almonds, 2½d lb.
Raspberry Vinegar, 6d, 10½d, and 1/ bot.
1lb. boxes Muscatel Raisins, 1/ box
Best Preserved Ginger, 7½d lb.
Preserved Pineapples, 5½d tin
" Apricots (Headley's), 7½d tin
Headley's dark Plum Jam, 5½ tin
" Tomato Sauce, 5½d bottle
Table Jellies, 10½d doz.
Flavoring Essences, 4½d bottle
Barcelona Nuts, 7½d lb.
Plum Puddings, 10½d, 1/4½, 2/3 tin
P.S.—There is no better place to get your wants supplied than
CORNISH'S.

JOHN PHILLIPS,
M.R.V.S.,
VETERINARY SURGEON
and
EQUINE DENTIST,
88 Easey St., Collingwood.
Open to call at any hour of night or day.
Horse and Cattle Medicines supplied
Phone 1304, City.

Dress and Fashion.

MISS GRINDLAY
DRESSMAKER,
(Late of George & George),
"RAVENNA," DERBY AVENUE,
UPPER NORTHCOTE,
near Kimberley Hall.
Evening and Wedding Dresses a Speciality.

Miss E. Bown,
DRESSMAKER,
"Cragielea," corner Robert & Mason Sts.,
NORTHCOTE SOUTH
(near Clarke St).
AFTER Saturday, 20th February, 1909, Miss Bown will carry on Dressmaking at her private address (see above), instead of 94 High St.
A trial solicited. Charges moderate.

Announcements.

WHATS THIS?
HATS THIS?
JUST THIS,
THAT
MRS. POLLOCK
is holding her
Half-Yearly Stocktaking SALE
This will be a GENUINE SALE of REAL GOOD FOOTWEAR, Footwear that is worth wearing—not an accumulation of rubbish.
No matter where you go you can't get better goods at such prices.
Special Reductions for this Sale.
Call and be Convinced of the Bargains on offer.
FEDERAL BOOT SHOP,
520 HIGH ST., UPPER NORTHCOTE.

NERO FIDDLES
WHILE
ROME BURNS.
I suppose he was insured against Fire.
You may fiddle while your
HOME BURNS
if it is insured in the
London Assurance
NO FEAR OF EXTINCTION.
Funds, £4,000,000.
Cr. R. ARCHBOLD, Victorian Manager.
ERNEST LEES, Local Agent.

Mrs. Brosnan
DESIRES to notify that she has opened
TEA ROOMS
at
591 HIGH STREET, PRESTON
(opposite old library).
Famous I.X.L. Ice Cream. Soft Drinks and Confectionery.
Also Cooked Meats and Small Goods of the very best.
Patronage respectfully solicited.

COOPER'S,
HIGH STREET, PRESTON,
for
ICE CREAM, SUMMER DRINKS, and CONFECTIONERY.

MISS I. THOMPSON, St. George's Rd., Northcote (corner Morley Street), FRUIT, CONFECTIONERY, and FANCY GOODS. Fresh Fruit direct from our own orchard at Ardmona.
MISS THOMPSON (same address), DRESSMAKER.

W. NEWMAN,
MANUFACTURER OF
PLASTER AND CEMENT ORNAMENTS.
No. 223 BEAVER'S ROAD, NORTHCOTE.
Close to St. George's Road.

Established 21 years.
Carl Oldenburg,
SADDLE, HARNESS, AND COLLAR MAKER,
365 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE
(opposite Brickworks).
Whips, Bits, Sponges, and other Stable Requisites in stock.
Secondhand Harness taken in exchange or bought.
Repairs neatly and promptly executed.

Notice to the Public.
HAVING now purchased the late B. T. JAMES' NURSERY, Union Street, Northcote, I am now prepared to supply at lowest rates—Hardy Ornamental Shrubs, Trees and Plants of all kinds, Climbing and Twining Plants, Plants for Hedges, &c.
ROSES in great variety.
FRUIT TREES of all kinds.
YOU ARE INVITED TO INSPECT
C. J. Jackson,
UNION STREET NORTHCOTE.

PLANTS & SEEDLINGS,
ROSES, CARNATIONS, &c.,
at Lowest Prices.
COME and SEE the ROSES in Bloom
Everybody welcome.
BAILTON BROS.,
PRESTON NURSERY, RAGLAN ST.,
SOUTH PRESTON.

ARTISTIC FLORAL WORK of every description. Also ball and other Decorations.—MISS JACKSON, Clarke St., Northcote.

Business Notices.

TELEPHONE 2906.
A. THARRATT & CO.,
Furnishing & Builders' Ironmongers,
HIGH & SEPARATION Sts., NORTHCOTE.

PAINTS,
Oils, Colors, Leads, Harland's Varnishes, Siennas, Umbers, Hessian, and materials on hand.
Cheapest in Northcote.
Large stock of Brushes, Sash Tools, Oval Ground Calcimo, Lime, etc.

COPPERS.
We supply the well known Seamless Coppers, made in one piece, never leak.
Also Portable Coppers, complete, with frame, chimney, & grate. From 10 gallon upwards. Cheap.
Please inspect.

Authorised Depot for
SEWERAGE FITTINGS.
Tested.
Bends, Ties, Elbows, Pipes, &c.
WATER PIPE.
Galvanised, ½ in. or ¾ in., also fittings for same.
Large stock of Bib Taps, &c.

STOVES, OVENS, GRATES.
Latest designs.
Iron Chimneys. Baths, 24-inch guage Iron, very best.
2 Division Wash Troughs, cheap.
"Bobs" Cooking Stoves for wood or coal, economical and durable.
Wire Fencing, Barbed Wire, Netting, for sale, cheap.
24 x 2, 36 x 2, 48 x 2, 72 x 2, all gauges.

GALVANISED IRON,
"Redcliff" brand,
Best and Cheapest.
Spouting, Ridging, Down Pipe.
Queen's Head Galvanised Plain Iron.
3ft., 2ft. 6in., 2ft. x 24, 26, 28 guage.

THARRATT'S SAW MILL.
All kinds of Joinery done for the trade Sawing, &c.
FIREWOOD.
Coke, Coal, Stove Wood, Mixed Blocks at lowest rates.

Houses Furnished.
RENDLE & SONS,
244-246 SMITH STREET,
COLLINGWOOD.
80 Diningroom Suites, all prices
70 Bedroom " "
60 Sideboards "
200 Rolls of Linoleums, Oilcloths and Carpets just imported. Splendid Patterns.
We keep Everything in House Furnishing.
CASH or TERMS:

£3	worth for	1/-	weekly
£6	"	2/-	"
£8	"	2/6	"
£12	"	3/-	"
£15	"	3/6	"
£20	"	5/-	"

Rendle & Sons 244-246 Smith St., Collingwood
Phone 3887.

E. FELLOWES,
COACHBUILDER

AND
SHOEING FORGE
HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE
(Opposite Croxton station).
IF YOU WANT to purchase a cheap & good Vehicle.
IF YOU WANT your Vehicle repaired expeditiously and faithfully.
IF YOU WANT your Horse sent for, shod on the shortest notice and returned.
IF YOU WANT to exchange your old Vehicle.
Call on the above who is prepared to deal liberally with you.
He has one of the largest Coachbuilding Factories in Melbourne and suburbs, a large and efficient staff of workmen and up-to-date plant.
What more can be desired by a customer?

W. WOOLHOUSE & CO.,
Sheffield Cutlers and Umbrella Manufacturers,
143-145 BOURKE ST. EAST
(Above Russell St.)
LINES BY A LONGFELLOW.
To Woolhouse & Co. I advise you to go,
Umbrellas they make and their prices are low;
Whilst in quality, too, the public still know
No Cutlers here please them like Woolhouse and Co.
In the whole of Melbourne nought better you'll find,
Than their Optical Goods of every kind.
Fine Eye-Glasses they've got to suit people's eyes,
And Goggles to keep out the dust and the flies.
In Spectacles truly none better could be,
They've oft caused the blind, or next to it, to see.
Whilst in Scissors and Razors their stock is immense,
Manufactured by Woolhouse—they've spared no expense.
Of Knives they have millions of every grade,
From Woolhouse they come—they're the best that are made,
For pocket or vest, large, medium or small,
Just fit for the parlour, the kitchen or hall;
Some are pretty to look at, most beautiful toys,
Nice presents to give to your girls and your boys.
Others have Seventy Blades and cause quite a start (Art.
At the triumph they show in the Cutlery Don't carve with blunt knives which wives tempers will try,
It will pay you far better new Carvers buy.
Or if you prefer to have them well ground
Then Woolhouse will make the poor cripple quite sound.
At Woolhouse & Co.'s there grinding is done
You'll find them hard as it from rise of the sun;
And the work that you give them—They Never Delay!
Repairing they do in the very best way.
Your Walking Stick broken—neat ferrules (spot
they've got,
They mend it and make it all right on the
Your old Umbrella which lets the wet thro',
They'll cover with silk and make Equal to New;
Your Razors, your Shears, your Knives may be found
So blunt that they need to be properly ground,
Then bring them at once to Woolhouse & Co.
For tradesmen are they, and their charges are low.
For Easy & Comfortable Shaving Try Woolhouse's Latest Magnetic Steel Razors.

Printing!
Promptly Executed in the . . . . .
Brightest and Most Effective Style .
At the LEADER office, Northcote .
Charges Moderate.

Carpenters.

W. Gribble,
CARPENTER and JOINER,
HOUSE REPAIRER.
231 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE
(near Methodist Church).
Saws, Scissors, Razors and Lawn Mowers Set and Sharpened.
Venetian Blinds Painted, Re-Taped and Corded.
Vienna Chairs and Furniture Repaired and Stained like New.
Picture Framing, Fly Wire Doors, and Household Requirements in Wood.

Announcements

PUBLIC NOTICE.
J. McNamara,
the old-established
PRESTON BAKER,
BEGS to announce that he has now OPENED his
NEW and UP-TO-DATE BREAD FACTORY
in Plenty Road, near corner of Bell Street, where he will be able to serve customers better not only in the matter of the "STAFF OF LIFE," but in all kinds of
PASTRY and SMALL GOODS.
A TRIAL SOLICITED.

Alfred Rose,
CARRIAGE BUILDER
and
WHEELWRIGHT,
Has commenced business in
HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE,
opposite Brickworks.
Vehicles of every description built to order, including Expresses, Abbot Buggies, Jinkers of any design, Bakers' Waggons, Grocers' Carts, and all Trade Vehicles in Latest Style.
First-class Materials and Best Workmanship at Lowest Prices.
A TRIAL SOLICITED.
ALFRED ROSE.

Your Success!
Depends upon the condition of your health and the activity of your mind. You cannot afford to DRINK any but THE BEST of BEVERAGES.
HING'S TEAS
Are ABSOLUTELY the BEST.
The Golden Canister can supply your wants and save your pocket at the same time.
ALL TEAS supplied by W. Q. HING can be relied upon to be THE BEST.
SPECIAL.
ART CHINA in endless variety and unique designs. Suitable for Wedding Presents and Christmas Boxes.
Afternoon Tea Sets from 5/4. 40-piece Tea Sets, 13/11.
Wholesale & Retail Depot—
90 HIGH STREET,
NORTHCOTE SOUTH.

FOR CATCHY & UP-TO-DATE
PRINTING
SEND YOUR ORDERS TO THE
Leader Office,
NORTHCOTE.

LOON KEE,
CHINESE LAUNDRY,
216 High St., Northcote.
Washing and Laundry Orders attended to. Good Workmanship and Polish Guaranteed. Prices Moderate.
White Shirts, ironed and washed, 4d
ironed only, 3d
Collars ironed only, 9d per doz.
Gallsy washed and ironed, 1d
Shirts sent for and returned.

FIRST-CLASS CHINESE LAUNDRY.
AH HAY,
HIGH STREET, THORNBURY
(next Post, Draper.

Milk Suppliers.

PRESTON DAIRY,
GOWER ST., PRESTON.
M. Walsh,
Cowkeeper and Dairyman.
Cattle and Premises under inspection of the Board of Public Health.
Pure Milk Direct from the Cow to the Consumer. Strippings and One Cow's Milk a Specialty. Absolutely free from colouring matter or preservatives.
No second dealing or with other traders.
Deliveries twice ally in Northcote and surroundings.

F. W. LUPSON
NOTIFIES the public that he has purchased and taken over the
"ACME" DAIRY,
HENRY ST., NORTHCOTE,
from which customers can rely upon getting
MILK
that is
ABSOLUTELY PURE
the supply being obtained from specially-selected herds in the country districts.
A card to the "Acme" Dairy, Helen St. and the carts will call.

IF your business is falling off, do not allow it to drift.
ADVERTISE and regain it.

Ask for Bosisto's "Parrot Brand" Eucalyptus Oil. SOLD EVERYWHERE.

Northcote Leader.

Kruse's Fluid Magnesia

Largest Circulation and Best Advertising Medium in the Northern Districts,

Circulating throughout Northcote, Preston, Thomastown, Epping, Whittlesea, Fairfield, Heidelberg, Clifton Hill

[Registered at the General Post Office, Melbourne, for transmission by post as a Newspaper.] SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1909. Printed and published by the proprietors, R. J. and J. R. WHALLEY, at their office, 382 High street, Northcote, in the State of Victoria. Price 1d

Produce Merchants.

J. A. BOSTOCK,
405 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE,
WISHES to thank his patrons for their past favors, and also to inform them that he sells the best
BOX FIREWOOD
NEWCASTLE COAL,
TASMANIAN COAL,
at Melbourne Prices for Cash.
Cut Green Bone, Victorian Chicken Meal, Pigeon Peas, Canary Seed and Sand, also Shell Grit for Fowls.
All kinds of Produce at Lowest Rates.

A. WATSON'S
HAY & CORN STORE
Wood & Coke Yard,
is at
51 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE, corner Robb's Parade.
Best Wheaten and Oaten Chaff direct from country | Firewood and Coal of all Descriptions
At Lowest Prices.
MIXED BLOCKS (lft.) by measurement,
2 tons 24/
1 ton 12/6
½ ton 6/6
A CHEAP FEED, suitable for pigs or poultry, worth inspection.

Announcements

H. C. Saunders,
PRACTICAL
TAILOR,
269 High St., Northcote.
Individual tastes and requirements of customers considered.
Moderate charges, coupled with first-class workmanship and fit.
Choice Selection of Suitings Vestings and Trouserings for this season's wear.

REMEMBER
THAT N.
Hansen's Dining Rooms
359 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE,
can always be
RELIED UPON
For Good, Well-Cooked, Appetising Meals
Dinners a Speciality.
On Sale—Butter, Cheese, and general Dairy Produce and also Small Goods of the highest quality.
Good Accommodation for Boarders. Civility and Attention to all
Stabling for Horses.
N.B.—N.H. will always be pleased to see old friends from the country and new ones.

PICTURES
FRAMED
in Up-to Date and Artistic Style
at
G. H. JACOBS'
255 JOHNSTON STREET, FITZROY
(5 doors west from Smith St).
and at
315 BRUNSWICK STREET.
Enlargements Framed from 2/6.
Wholesale and Retail.

GET YOUR HAIR-CUT & SHAVE
at
F. SMITH'S
Up-to-Date Hairdressing Saloon,
242 High St., Northcote.
Cleanliness, Civility, Attention.
Razor Setting a Speciality.

J. W. DURANCE,
(late of Catanach's) Watchmaker,
Fifth floor Equitable Buildings, Collins St., City.
Repairs Watches of all kinds,
Sells Reliable Levers, Gold, Silver, Gun Metal.
Private Address: 38 Salisbury grove, Northcote where orders may be left.

Undertakers

HENRY J. R. LEWIS,
UNDERTAKER
and
CERTIFICATED EMBALMER,
HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
Head Office:
Corner of Johnston & Hertford Streets,
FITZROY.
H.L. is prepared to conduct Funerals at the lowest possible rates to suit all classes.
Hearses, Mourning Coaches, and Funeral Requisites.
Coffins, all sizes, for country orders.
The Trade supplied.
Telephone 1160.

Sole Patentee of the Disinfecting Coffin for preventing contagion. Established 1866.
W. G. APPS,
UNDERTAKER,
MOOR STREET, FITZROY,
Near Labour-in-Vain Hotel,
And High and Robe Streets, St. Kilda.
Also Branch Burgundy Street, Heidelberg.
Tel. No. 60, Heidelberg Exchange.
Patent and every description of coffin at five minutes' notice.
Hearses, Coaches, &c.

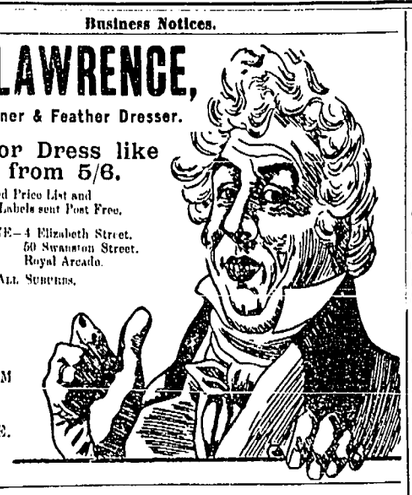
A.N.A. A.W.A.
R. ROBSON,
UNDERTAKER,
CORNER of
BRUNSWICK ST. and ST. GEORGE'S ROAD (opposite Cricket Ground),
NORTH FITZROY.
Telephone 1844.
Estab. 47 years.

Established 1854.
ALFRED ALLISON,
UNDERTAKER,
Head Office—221 Victoria St.,
Tel. 980. WEST MELB.
High Street, Northcote.
Queen's Parade, Clifton Hill
Tel. 2776.
All Funeral arrangements promptly attended to.
Charges Moderate | Terms Arranged

SUCCESS
Awaits the man who keeps his business prominently before the people. The merchant who advertises and tells people who he is, what he is doing, and asks them courteously and persistently for their trade, is the one who will do the most business.

Business Notices.

R. B. LAWRENCE,
Dyer, Cleaner & Feather Dresser.
A Suit or Dress like new from 5/6.
Illustrated Price List and Address Labels sent Post Free.
MELBOURNE—4 Elizabeth Street.
50 Swanston Street.
Royal Arcade.
ALL SUBURBS.
Offices & Works
CUNNINGHAM STREET,
NORTHCOTE.



J. T. COLES & Co., Cash Grocers,
NORTHCOTE, THORNBURY, & PRESTON.
NOTE A FEW OF OUR HOLIDAY PRICES:—
Machine cleaned Currants, 6½d
" " Raisins, 4½d and 5½d
S. & A. Seeded Raisins, 6½d
Lemon Peel, 6½d
Table Jellies, 10½d dozen
Custard Powders, 5½d dozen
Rice, Mixed, and Coffee Biscuits, 4d lb.
New Dates, 4d lb
New Figs, 5d box
Plum Puddings, 10½d, 1/4½d, 2/3
Xmas Cakes, 1/1, 1/3, 1/4, 2/ tin
Fruit and Plain Cake, 6d lb.
Rosella Pears, 9d Rosella Peaches, 8½d
" Apricots, 7½d " Quinces, 6½d
" Cherries, 8d
Lemon Squash, 6d Lime Juice, 6d
Raspberry Vinegar, 6d and 10½d
Oysters, 5½d tin
Mince Meat, 10½d tin
Lunch Cakes, 6d each O.T. Punch, 1/

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!
SEND YOUR LINEN TO THE
NORTHCOTE LAUNDRY
HIGH STREET (nearly opposite London Bank).
A VICTORIA HIGH-BOARD IRONING MACHINE USED, which turns out
Shirts and Collars Equal to New
and Saves Half the Wear and Tear.
Shirts, Washed and Ironed — 4d | Collars, Washed and Ironed — 1d
" Ironed only — 3d | " Ironed only — ½d
All Classes of Washing and Ironing done, also MANGLING.
Orders Called for and Delivered. A Trial Solicited.
MRS. FRAWLEY, Proprietress.

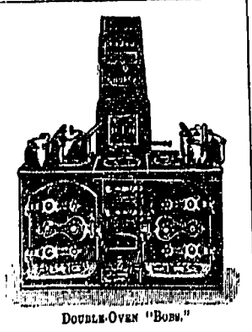
Smith's Sons
TRADE MARK 1909
GOLD MEDALISTS
HAM & BACON CURERS
AND
Small Goods Manufacturers.
NORTHCOTE, Vic.
'Phone 1160.
Champion and First Prize Winners
FOR
HAMS and BACON
AT THE
Royal Agricultural Show,
MELBOURNE.
Our High-Class Goods
Are Noted Throughout the Commonwealth for their
Savory, Delicious, & Appetising Quality
And are stocked by All Grocers and Dairy Produce Merchants.
Our FRITZ and FRANKFORTS are Just the Thing for the Tea & Breakfast Table.
All Goods Manufactured under the Supervision of the Central Board of Health.
FACTORY AND OFFICE: "MERRIBANK," NORTHCOTE.

T. KERR,
PASTRYCOOK and CONFECTIONER,
76 and 328 Smith Street,
COLLINGWOOD.

Wedding and Christmas Cakes a Specialty.
Wedding Cakes forwarded to all parts of the State.
REFRESHMENT ROOMS.
Tea and Coffee always ready.

FREE BOOKS!
Over 3000 to select from, including all classes of Literature and Reference Works.
NORTHCOTE PUBLIC LIBRARY,
Town Hall.
Open Every Evening and also on Monday and Friday Afternoons.
Illustrated Australian, English and American Magazines.
Cosy and well-furnished Reading Room.
R. J. WHALLEY, Hon. Sec.

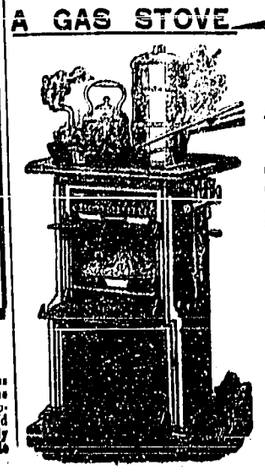
TO Have the Least Possible Expense and the Greatest Comfort in Cooking, use a
"BOBS"
(burns coal or wood)
Made in three sizes—No. 1, 2ft. wide
No 2, 2ft. 3in. wide
No. 3, 3 ft wide
Plate Warmers and Boilers can be fitted to either side.
Our many customers testify that "BOBS" is the most up-to-date FUEL SAVER.



DOUBLE-OVEN "BOBS."

Wallis Bros. & Co.
IRONFOUNDERS and STOVE MANUFACTURERS,
Cramer Street, Preston.
Showroom—410 Bourke Street, Melbourne (opposite Kirk's Bazaar.)
Sole Manufacturers of the Beadle Patent Cast Iron Revolving Washing Copper Frames, suitable for Dairymen, Butchers, and ordinary household use.
Very Durable and Economical. Write for Catalogues.

For the Proper Equipment of a Modern Home,
A GAS STOVE
Is an Absolute Essential.



A GAS STOVE ensures
Excellence in Cookery
at the least possible trouble and expense, also freedom from Soot, Smoke, and Ashes, thereby resulting at all times in a delightfully CLEAN and COOL KITCHEN.
Needs minimum attention. Easily managed, and is a veritable boon to the busy housewife.
Can be obtained on rental from 1/6 per month, or on hire purchase terms. Small deposit and 2/6 per month.
Metropolitan Gas Company,
186 Flinders St., Melbourne.
Tel. Mos. 530, 359, 8743, 7613.

PRESTON SHIRE COUNCIL.

MONDAY, MARCH 8.

Present:—Crs. Allchin (president), Paterson, Warr, Stanlake, Robertson, Crispe, Howse, Howe and Wilkinson.

Definite Dates Wanted.

The hon. secs. Preston District F.C. wrote urging the council to give them definite dates for their series of socials as in other years. Without them it would be very awkward in engaging musicians, &c.—Referred to hall committee, on motion of Crs. Howe and Stanlake.

Merri Creek Improvement.

The secretary Merri Creek Conference wrote in view of deputation to Minister of Public Works, asking what money this council had expended in improving the condition of the Merri Creek.—Cr. Howse moved that the information be supplied.

A New Subdivision.

H. H. Olney wrote asking council's approval of plan of subdivision of land in the Trudgeon estate, situated at High, Station, and Regent streets.

Cr. Crispe said that as the engineer had been over the land and said it could be easily drained he thought they might grant approval at once.

Cr. Warr moved that the matter be referred to the committee of the whole, with power to act.

Cr. Paterson seconded.—Carried.

Hall for Library Fair.

The hon. secs. Preston Public Free and Lending Library May Fair Committee (Messrs Arch Wilkinson and William Cole) wrote asking for the use of the shire hall for dates between 18th and 22nd May, inclusive, for the holding of the said fair.

Cr. Wilkinson moved and Cr. Crispe seconded that the request be granted.—Carried.

Thorns on a Footpath.

H. H. C. West wrote calling attention to the fact that his wife, while walking along Murray road, owing to some boxthorn being left on the footpath after being clipped from Mr. Crowe's hedge, met with a painful accident owing to a thorn penetrating to the bone of her ankle, since when she had been unable to use her foot.

The inspector reported that the hedge was cut as the result of a notice which he had served on the owner of the land. As soon as he got the complaint from Mrs. West he ordered that the clippings be taken away at once.

Cr. Warr moved that the letter be received and Mrs. West informed of the action the inspector had taken in regard to the matter.

Cr. Howse seconded.—Carried.

Infected with Tuberculosis.

From Board of Public Health notifying that Preston, Heidelberg, and Northcote had amongst other districts been proclaimed infected areas so far as the disease known as pulmonary tuberculosis is concerned.

Cr. Robertson, in moving that the matter be referred to the health officer said that seeing every district was infected with tuberculosis he thought it very unfair that a few districts should be picked out in this way.

Extension of Meat Areas.

The Board of Public Health wrote stating that before any inspection under the Meat Supervision Act could be allowed at bacon curing factories such establishments must be included in the meat area.

Cr. Howse moved that the matter be referred to the committee of the whole, with power to act. As the new regulations would come into force right away they should take steps to protect the manufacturers.

Cr. Warr seconded.—Carried.

J. C. Hutton wrote expressing the wish that their bacon factory be proclaimed a meat area at the earliest opportunity.

Cr. Stanlake moved and Cr. Warr seconded that the matter be referred to the committee of the whole, with power to act.

Cr. Warr seconded.—Carried.

Complaint re Branding Fees.

J. C. Hutton wrote objecting to account of £7 0s 11d for branding of 1763 pigs' heads, which was equal to 18/4 per day, which they considered excessive. There were at any rate 550 unnecessary brandings, as the regulation was suspended from a certain date. When the Act came into force compelling all pigs' carcases to be branded they hoped only such fees would be fixed as would provide inspector's salary.

Cr. Warr moved that the matter be referred to the committee of the whole.

Cr. Stanlake seconded, remarking that he thought the charges should be as low as possible consistent with the expenses of inspection being met.

Motion carried.

Turning off Water Supply.

The Metropolitan Board of Works wrote re complaint of water being turned off without notice being given stating that the supply of water in the locality was temporarily diminished during the urgent work of making a connection between the 48 inch main and the new 54 inch main at Preston Reservoir. To provide against such contingencies, consumers are always advised to arrange for storage if an absolutely uninterrupted water supply is required.

Cr. Paterson said this reply was not satisfactory. Not only was the water turned off without notice on the date he had last complained about, but only on Thursday last the same thing happened, and between 3 and 9 o'clock there was not a drop of water to be had. It was all very well to talk of storing water, but if they got no notice that it was going to be turned off, how could they do it. If they said that notice was given on the occasion referred to, they were not telling the truth. He would move that a reply be sent that no notice was served on the last two occasions the water was turned off.

Cr. Howe seconded the motion, and as one who felt the inconvenience said he could heartily endorse all that Cr. Paterson had said.—Carried.

London Bank Complains.

G. F. Major, manager London Bank, Northcote, wrote stating that owing to the alteration made by the construction of a culvert and the regrading of the roads at the corner of Oakover road and Railway place west, that the drainage and stormwater of Railway place has been driven into land owned by the bank on the north corner of the road. Unless steps were taken to abate the nuisance the bank would be compelled to take action to prevent further damage being done to the land.—To be considered with clause 4, committee of the whole.

Noxious Weeds.

The shire of Epping wrote asking that all noxious weeds on the south half of Mahoney's road, Thomastown, be cut by this council, as the occupier of the land adjoining the road states it is useless cutting his side of the road when weeds on the other side are allowed to spread.

Cr. Wilkinson moved that notice be served on the proper parties to cut the thistles.

Cr. Paterson seconded.—Carried.

Support Local Industry.

F. C. Wainwright, secretary Board of Directors A.N.A., wrote asking that this council (in common with all other municipal councils in Victoria) should support local industry in municipal contracts.

Cr. Howe moved that a reply be sent that it was the policy of the council to always endeavour to support local industry.

Cr. Crispe, in seconding the motion, said that seeing all the councillors and also the officers were natives of Australia they were sure to stick up for their country.

Carried.

Football Clubs and the Park.

W. H. Smith, sec. Preston F.C., wrote applying for the use of the park during the coming season for four practice and 9 premiership matches.—Referred to parks committee.

W. Gibbs, sec. P.D.F.C., requested the use of the park on those dates when the P.F.C. was not using it.—Referred to parks committee.

Public Works Committee.

Cr. Crispe (chairman) submitted the report, recommending—

1. That accounts amounting to £79 15s 4d be passed for payment.—Adopted.

Finance Committee.

Cr. Warr (chairman) submitted the report, recommending—

1. That accounts amounting to £51 0s 6d be passed for payment.—Adopted.

Committee of the Whole.

Cr. Robertson (chairman) submitted the report, recommending—

1. Cyclone Fencing Coy's. offer for erecting fence at library.—That the offer of the Cyclone Woven Wire Fence and Gate Coy. to erect fence at £23 14s 6d in front of library be accepted.

Cr. Robertson moved the adoption of the clause *pro forma*.

Cr. Paterson asked if the expenditure had been provided for.

The president—Not fully, but the balance will come out of "contingencies." He had ruled in this way once before, but he recognised he must not make a practice of it.

Cr. Paterson—If I were to bring up a matter of £80 for the cast riding, would that be in order?

Cr. Crispe—You would be out of order. (Laughter).

Cr. Warr said that as a member of the library committee he hoped the council would see their way to erect the fence. Seeing that the library committee's efforts had already been the means of raising £400 towards the library, which was for the benefit of the public—in fact the public's property—he did not think it was too much to ask for this little bit of fence. What made them specially anxious to have the work done without delay was that they intended having a working bee to improve the grounds.

The clause was then put and carried, Cr. Paterson voting against.

2. Letter from Fink, Best and Hall re bye-laws.—That the council proceed with the making of the bye-laws at once and notice of motion be given accordingly.—Adopted.

3. Consideration of building regulations.—That Friday, 12th March inst., at 7.30 p.m., be fixed for the committee to consider building regulations.—Adopted.

4. Letter from Railway Department in reference to crossing at Oakover road.—That the letter from the Department is considered unsatisfactory, and that a reply be sent to them to that effect, also that a copy of the letter from the London Bank be forwarded.—Adopted.

5. Letter from Board of Health re branding pigs' cheeks.—That the services of the temporary inspector be dispensed with as from Saturday, 6th March, 1909, on account of no branding being required at present.—Adopted.

6. That the date for receiving applications for lamplighter to be extended to 15th March inst., at 4 p.m.—Adopted.

Rate Collector's Report.

Mr. Hamilton reported having collected for the fortnight £71 19s 11d. Total, £121 19s 11d.

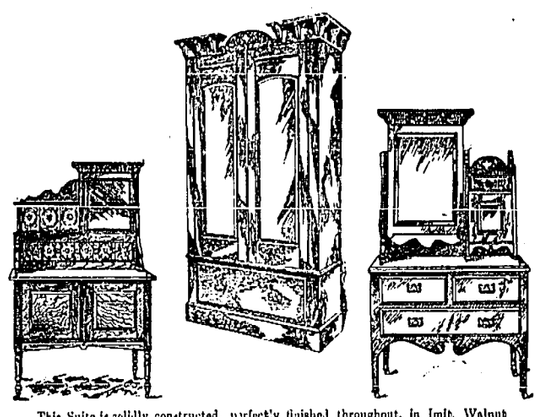
Sewer to Preston.

The president reported re deputation to the Metropolitan Board of Works which Cr. Crispe and himself had attended and at which they heard the good news that the Board intended to take the main sewer up to Oakover road. He would like this to be recorded in the minutes of the council.

Business Notices.

SPECIAL BEDROOM SUITE

SPECIAL VALUE



SPECIAL PRICE

This Suite is solidly constructed, perfectly finished throughout, in Imit. Walnut or Light wood, consisting of 4ft. Wardrobe with 2 bevelled plate glass doors & large drawer, 3ft. 6in. Toilet Table with massive bevelled plate mirror, cupboard with glass door and three large drawers; 3ft. 6in. washstand, marble top and tile back, with bevelled plate mirror and shelf.
We supply this Suite complete or in separate pieces.
SPECIAL PRICE for ONE MONTH ONLY, £12.
CLAUSCEN & CO.
194-6 Bourke St., Melbourne.

MOA CYCLES
For price, quality, and neatness in design we defy competition.
All joints are double-butted in the No. 1 as in the Moa Special.
We give a ten years' guarantee to replace any part of a Moa Cycle frame or forks found defective or if broken.
No. 1, £8 10/-. No. 2, £10 10/-. All Accessories Free.
The Moa Special, £14 10/. We ask you to compare this model with any make of cycle in Victoria, and will refund money if better value can be obtained.
B.S.A. Cycles, £12 10/.
Large stock of Covers and Tubes, all makes, at Lowest Prices. Repairs to any make of cycle.
Merson's, 218 High St., Northcote.

L. G. GODLEY,
UPHOLSTERER,
531 HIGH ST., THORNBURY.
HAVING purchased the stock of Mr. S. DEVENPORT,
Painter, of 563 High St., Thornbury
I am prepared to sell Oils, Paints, Varnish, White Lead, Methylated Spirits, Turps, Benzine, &c., at lowest market prices.
GLASS CUT TO SIZE.

Estate Agents

TOWN HALL ESTATE AGENCY.
W. Freebairn & Co.
(SWORN VALUERS),
HOUSE & LAND
Agents,
HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
Houses for Sale—small deposit; balance as rent.
Rents Collected. Insurances Effected.
Loans Negotiated.
Commissions executed.
Valuations made. Auction Sales arranged.
Agents for the Manchester Fire Assurance

Membrey & Deane
(J. G. MEMBREY—J. V. DEANE),
Estate, Financial & Insurance Agents,
Accountants, &c.,
HAVE much pleasure in informing the general public they have commenced business at York Buildings, 43 Queen St., Melbourne.
Mr Membrey has had a lengthened experience as a municipal valuer and is also a sworn valuer under the Transfer of Land Act.
Mr. Deane has had over 17 years' experience with two leading city firms of solicitors.
Fire and Life Insurance a speciality.
Large and small sums of trust monies to lend. Loans negotiated on usual terms.
All business placed in the hands of the above firm will receive prompt attention.

Nurse Phillips,
CERTIFICATED MIDWIFE,
HAS Vacancies for Ladies during Accouchement. Fees, £3 3/. Every home comfort, doctor if required. Patients admitted any hour.
Outdoor cases attended. Fee, £1.
"St. Heliers,"
Merri St., Northcote (near P.O.)

Private Hospital,
22 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE SOUTH
(3 doors from Walker St).
ALL Patients carefully treated. Outside Cases visited. Doctor if desired.
MIDWIFERY AND SURGICAL.
MRS. SPARROW,
Women's Hospital, Melbourne.
Reg. R.V.T.N.A. Terms Moderate.

NURSE ROKEHERST ROBERTS, Certificates Melbourne and Women's Hospitals,
14 NORMANBY AVENUE, UPPER NORTHCOTE.
Correspondence invited.

IF YOUR WATCH DOES NOT KEEP TIME
TAKE IT TO
GEO. H. ARMFIELD,
128 SMITH STREET, COLLINGWOOD
(next to Foy & Gibson's).
Satisfaction Guaranteed.
SPECTACLES to SUIT ALL SIGHTS.

A. SANGUINETTI,
THE OLDEST-ESTABLISHED
HOUSE DECORATOR & PAINTER
IN THE DISTRICT.
Estimates Given for all kinds of House Repairs.
ON SALE—
Paperhangings
from 2½d per roll.
Dry Colors from 2d lb., 7 lbs. for 1/-.
Artists' Materials, Alabastine, Leads, Oils, Stainers' Varnishes, Plain & Fancy Glass, &c
Special Concessions to the Trade.
Muranese Glass cut to Size from 10d per foot.
Address: 347 High Street, Northcote
(Close to Tramway Penny Section).

To know a good job, have a good job done by
D. B. MASSON,
DECORATOR
Paperhanger, Grainer, Glazier, Signwriter.
IF you have not time to call on me let me call on you about those renovations when you can have the benefit of my London and Edinburgh experience.
Don't wait to see how so and so have their house done. Come right away and I will show you the latest designs and methods.
Country orders have our special attention and work carried through without delay or inconvenience to occupants.
Only respectable, reliable TRADESMEN employed.
212 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.

FARMERS AND GRAZIERS
Of Preston & Epping shires.
PLEASE NOTE!
—THAT—
T. HERLEY & CO.,
Woolscourers, &c.,
Oakover Rd., South Preston,
ARE CASH BUYERS OF
WOOL AND SKINS.
Highest Price Paid. No Commissions Charged.
Write or Call if you have Anything to Sell—*it will pay you.*
T. HERLEY & CO., South Preston.

Established 20 years.
W. FIRTH
GENERAL DRAPER,
344 SMITH STREET,
COLLINGWOOD
(Below Johnston St).

Northcote (Free & Circulating)
LIBRARY
Open Every Night from 7 till 10; also on Monday and Friday afternoons from 3 till 4.
SPLENDID COLLECTION of BOOKS.
Subscription Fee of 5s 6d per quarter enables the Reader to take books home.
R. J. WHALLEY, Hon. Sec

Tailors

INCE BROS.,
TAILORS & OUTFITTERS.
NEW SPRING GOODS.
NEW SPRING GOODS.
NEW SPRING GOODS.
Suits from £3 3/-; Trousers from 15/6.
If we do not please you, tell us; if we do please you, tell others.
174 SWANSTON ST., MELBOURNE.

IF YOU are looking for a really good stylish Suit, write at once to
"OUR TAILORS,"
VEREY & CROSS,
242 SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD,
Where you get a fashionably-cut and serviceable Suit at bed-rock prices. Every article made on the premises by experienced workmen and under personal supervision.
Country orders attended to with utmost despatch.
Don't forget the only address—
"Our Tailors,"
VEREY & CROSS,
242 SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD.

Tailor & Mercer,
PLENTY RD. & GARNET STS.,
SOUTH PRESTON.
Arch. Wilkinson,
Ladies' & Gentlemen's Tailor.
NEW GOODS for the Coming Season Just Arrived.
STRAW HATS a Specialty.
Latest Shades and Shapes in Soft & Hard Felt Hats.
A Large Assortment of Shirts, Ties, and Hosiery of every description.
Have a Look at our Window Display.
LADIES' COSTUMES A SPECIAL STUDY.

J. G. Alston,
PRACTICAL TAILOR,
324 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE
(late Smith St. and City.)
Fit and Style Guaranteed.
Prices to Suit all Pockets. Suits from 35/-
Trousers, 10/6 upwards.
TRIAL SOLICITED.

A. RAYMOND,
Practical
TAILOR and MERCER,
HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE,
opposite Town Hall,
HAS a Splendid Variety of NEW GOODS at PRICES to SUIT ALL CUSTOMERS.
A PERFECT FIT is GUARANTEED and the STYLE is UP-TO-DATE.

Announcements

W. T. ROWE
(Over 17 years with F. Yann, also large English experience),
COACHBUILDER, WHEELWRIGHT, and GENERAL BLACKSMITH,
Corner of HIGH and DUNDAS STS.
UPPER NORTHCOTE
(opposite Tram Terminus, Preston).
Buggies, Jinkers, Waggons, Drays, and Carts of every description built on the most reasonable terms.
Repairs Promptly Executed.
Vehicles Bought, Sold, and Exchanged.
Horses Carefully Shod, called for and and Returned.
Best Materials Used. All Work Guaranteed.

FARMERS!
Take your Hay to
C. Wilkinson's
NEW
Chaffcutting Works,
HIGH STREET, PRESTON
(near Shire Hall).
Having had large experience C.W. is confident of being able to give all who entrust him with their cutting the greatest satisfaction.
CHARGES MODERATE.
The trade supplied with chaff, also customers in lots of not less than half-ton.

Plumbers.

PUBLIC NOTICE.
J. DENYER,
LICENSED PLUMBER & GASFITTER, TINSMITH & IRONWORKER,
Next Wesleyan Schoolroom,
232 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE
Water Meters Fixed and Repaired.
Gas and Water Laid On
Estimates Given for General Repairs.

To Landlords, Householders and Builders.
Edwards & Howard,
Licensed
PLUMBERS, GASFITTERS,
Mechanical and Electric Bell Hangers, Steam, Hot, and Cold Water Engineers and Sanitary Plumbers,
Guarantee All Work for Twelve Months.
Gas & Water laid on. Estimates submitted Work promptly executed.
Corner High and Clarke Streets,
NORTHCOTE.

Does Your
WATER-PIPE LEAK
GAS-PIPE LEAK!
ROOF LEAK!
S. McDOUGALL,
LICENSED PLUMBER,
Next Railway,
NORMANBY AVENUE,
NORTHCOTE,
WILL SEE MATTERS RIGHT—
Promptly—Reliably—Cheaply.
Water Meters Fixed. Gas & Water laid on

For Sale.

FIRST-CLASS Garden Soil (rich, black loam) for Sale.—J. Milot, Beaver's rd., Northcote.

Church Notices

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, NORTHCOTE

Sunday Services:
Rev. A. C. KELLAWAY, M.A., morning and evening.

HOLY TRINITY, THORNBURY.

Third Sunday in Lent.
11 a.m., Matins and Holy Communion.
4.15 p.m., Holy Baptism.
7 p.m., Choral Evensong and Sermon.

INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, TOWN HALL, NORTHCOTE

REV. HECTOR FERGUSON, Minister.

Morning, "Thought Power."
Evening, "Blind Leaders versus Spiritual Revelations."

NORTHCOTE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (JAMES ST.)

Sabbath Services:
Rev. R. W. ROCK, morning and evening.
Anthems:—Morning, "Incline Thine Ear;" evening, "They shall mount;" bass solo, "Light of the World."

NORTHCOTE METHODIST CHURCH

S.S. ANNIVERSARY.
Morning, Rev. J. NALL.
Afternoon, Rev. C. TREGEAR.
Evening, Mrs. BRIDE BARBER.
Strangers warmly welcomed.

NORTHCOTE BAPTIST CHURCH, Kimberley Hall, Darebin Road.

Rev. T. NICHOLS, morning and evening.
All welcome.

PRINCE OF WALES' PARK METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday Services:
Morning, Rev. SECOMB.
Evening, Mr. JENKIN.
All Seats Free. Strangers welcomed.

PRESTON CHURCH OF CHRIST, Bradford Hall, High St.

Preacher, Mr. F. J. GOODWIN.
Ladies invited Wednesdays at 2.30 p.m.
Try and come.
All welcome. No collection.

SOUTH PRESTON METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday Services:
Morning, Rev. J. TRAIHAN.
Evening, Rev. C. C. DUGAN.
Bright singing. All welcome.

SALVATION ARMY, MITCHELL ST., NORTHCOTE.

Sunday, 14th March.
Meetings at 7 and 11 a.m., 3 and 7 p.m.
All are welcome.

Wanted to Sell

MILK.—80 quarts day per Cutts's waggon; 9d per gallon. A. W. Bodycoat, South Yan Yean.

Tenders.

TENDERS invited for two Brick Cottages at Kew. Plans and specifications can be seen at 315 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne. George Launder, Architect and Surveyor, 5 Flinders Street, Northcote.

Lost and Found.

PERSON who got wrong Umbrella at opening of Preston Bowling Green last Saturday please return to this office.

Local Government.

TOWN OF NORTHCOTE.

DOG ACT 1890.

Notice is hereby given that Registration Fees for Dogs are due on the first day of March, and that all persons keeping an unregistered dog above the age of six months on their premises after the expiration of fifteen days from such date are liable to prosecution.

The sum of five shillings registration fee for each dog, may be paid at the Municipal Offices, Town Hall, Northcote.

H. CHAPPELL,
Acting Town Clerk.
Town Clerk's Office,
Northcote, 24th Feb., 1909.

TOWN OF NORTHCOTE.

TENDERS will be received until 4 p.m. on Monday, 15th March, for the following:—

1. The supply of 1000 cubic yards of handbroken Bluestone Metal in two contracts of 500 cubic yards each.

Special Improvement Mortgage Loan Works.

2. The construction of Langston Street. Plan 419.
3. The construction of lane or right-of-way, between Woolton Avenue and Shaftesbury Parade. Plan 418.

Plans and Specifications may be seen at the Municipal Offices.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

By Order,
W. G. SWIFT,
Town Clerk.
March 5, 1909.

TOWN OF NORTHCOTE.

SANITARY AND MEAT INSPECTOR.

Applications will be received until 12 noon on Saturday, the 20th inst., from persons qualified for the joint office of Sanitary and Meat Inspector to the Council of the Town of Northcote at a salary at the rate of £150 per annum.

Applicants must hold the certificate of Meat Inspector under the Meat Supervision Act.

Particulars of duties may be inspected at this office.

Personal canvass of Councillors will be deemed a disqualification.

By Order,
W. G. SWIFT,
Town Clerk.
Town Hall, Northcote,
March 5th, 1909.

TOWN OF NORTHCOTE.

OVERSEER OF WORKS.

Applications will be received until 12 noon on Saturday, the 20th inst., from persons competent to discharge duties of Overseer of Works to the Council of the Town of Northcote at a salary at the rate of £156 per annum.

Particulars of duties may be inspected at this office.

Personal canvass of Councillors will be deemed a disqualification.

By Order,
W. G. SWIFT,
Town Clerk.
Town Hall, Northcote,
March 5th, 1909.

Meetings.

PRESTON DISTRICT FOOTBALL CLUB.

The Annual Meeting will be held in the Rechabite Hall, High street, Preston, on FRIDAY, 26th March, at 8 p.m.

Business:—Submitting Reports and Balance-Sheet for season 1908; Election of Office Bearers for the ensuing year; enrolling new members; any other business for the welfare of the club.

Important Notice.—Nominations will be received by the secretary for the following offices up to Wednesday, 17th March:—President, Vice-Presidents (6), Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary, General Committee (7), Delegates (2), Match Committee (5), consisting of three non playing and two playing members. All nominations must be signed by nominee, proposer, and seconder.
W. GIBBS, Hon. Sec.,
2 Jeffrey St., Preston.

NORTHCOTE CHILDREN'S EXCURSION.

A Meeting of the Committee of above to receive Balance Sheet and pass accounts will be held at the Town Hall on Thursday evening next, 18th inst., at 8 p.m. Full attendance requested.
A. E. WOOLHOUSE, Hon. Sec.

PRESTON CHILDREN'S EXCURSION.

A Meeting of the Committee of the above to pass accounts and receive balance-sheet will be held at the Shire Hall on Thursday evening next, 18th inst., at 8 o'clock.
A full attendance is requested.
C. H. WARR, Hon. Sec.

ALL Persons interested in giving a "Send Off" to Mr. W. Braithwaite on the eve of his departure for Europe will please meet at the Shire Hall on Tuesday next, 16th inst., at 8 p.m.
E. ALLCHIN, President.

Meetings.

PRESTON FOOTBALL CLUB.

The Annual Meeting of the above Club will be held in the Shire Hall on Wednesday evening, 24th March, at 8 o'clock.

Nominations for office bearers to be in the hands of secretary 7 days prior to the meeting, and must be signed by the candidate, proposer, and seconder. Same can be lodged at Messrs McGeorge Bros., High street, Preston.

Nominations may be withdrawn in writing 4 clear days prior to to date of election.
W. H. SMITH,
Hon. Secretary.

Amusements.

MRS. TOWNSEND'S ASSEMBLY re-opens TO NIGHT (Saturday, 13th March) at the Bradford Hall, Preston. Dancing 8 till 11. Strictly select. Children's Classes re open this afternoon, 3 till 5.

PIANO for practising, day or evening. Terms easy. 88 Helen St., Northcote.

CROXTON PARK RESERVE, Wednesday Evening Next, 17th inst., at 8 p.m.
GRAND OPEN-AIR CONCERT.
Gwalia Novelty Band will play selections on the ground.
Splendid Up to Date Programme.
Come Early. Admission 6d.
H. W. BALHARRY, Business Manager.

Notices

I HEREBY give notice that I intend to apply to the Preston Shire Council, under Section 223 of the Health Act, for permission to make further extensions to my premises in Gilbert Road.
R. STAPLES.
Preston, Feb. 25, 1909.

Mrs. Holland,

118-120-122

SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD.

Special Bargains in Millinery.

GREAT REDUCTIONS.

Trimmed Hats from 4/11.

THE PRESTON PHARMACY.

W. G. FEGENT

(late with Ford & Co., Toorak),

Successor to J. SLADE,

Pharmaceutical & Dispensing Chemist

257 HIGH STREET, PRESTON.

The Dispensing of Physicians' Prescriptions is a special branch of the Pharmacy. The greatest care is taken in the selection and testing of drugs. All dispensing is checked to ensure accuracy.

NOTE

Records kept of all prescriptions dispensed since the establishment of the business in 1888.

HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES.

BOOTS MADE FOR YOU!

We Make Direct for the People.

Our Factory is manned with first-class labor and we use only good solid leather, consequently we can give to our customers a boot better in quality and lower in price than can be got elsewhere.

Our Patent Unbreakable Back Boot

(made only by us)

SPEAKS FOR ITSELF BY THE THOUSANDS WE SELL.

Our Prices for them now are:

Men's Box Derby Bals., 8/11	Boys' Box, strong wear, 10 to 13, 4/11
Men's knock about Bals., 8/6	Youths' strong leather, 1 to 5, 4/11
Youths' Box, strong wear, 1 to 5, 6/6	Boys' strong leather, 10 to 13, 4/6

Many splendid-value lines in ordinary backs also.

All Lines to Measure at Retail Price. Boots sent to all parts of the country.

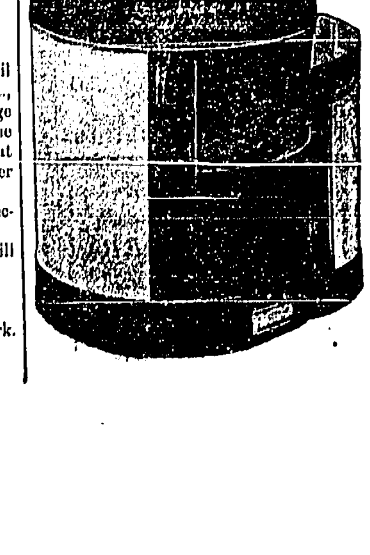
Bring your old boots to be made new. Repairs a leading factor

DIMMICK, Manufacturer & Retailer

245 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.

Every Business Man

Who has not a Standing Advertisement in this Paper is not giving his Business a fair chance.



T. E.

REDMOND,

Ironmonger, Crockery, Oil & Color Merchant,

410 High St., Northcote

Hanging Meat Safes.

Square and round.
One Quality—THE BEST.
4/6, 5/0, 6/9, 7/11, 9/0, 9/11 and 10/11.
Kerosene Stoves, 3/6, 4/11, 15/, 24/, &c.
Water Cans—Green, 1/, 1/4, 1/6, 1/11, 2/3, and 2/9.
Water Cans—Galvanised, 1/11, 2/3, 2/11, 3/3, 3/6, 4/11, &c.
Wire Window Screens, fit any window, 2/11.
Best Wire Doors, 8/11 and 10/11.
Fly Wire, Green and Galvanised, cheap.
½ inch Hose, 6d per foot.
Telephone 312 (Brunswick).

Do You Know

that if your advertisement were here every subscriber would be reading it just as . .

YOU ARE READING THIS

The Leader

JUSTICE TO ALL.

Published Every Saturday Morning.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13.

Honouring a Pioneer's Memory.—At Monday's Preston council meeting Cr. Howe said he had the pleasure the other evening of listening to a lecture on the early days of Preston and was astonished to learn of the great and good work some of its pioneers had performed, and the benefits of which they now enjoyed. One of these was the late Mr. J. C. Clinch, who had done noble service for Preston in its early days, and to perpetuate his name he would move that the name of one of the two Station streets be altered to Clinch Avenue. Cr. Wilkinson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The Northcote branch of the A.N.A. held their usual meeting in the town-hall on Thursday night, the president (Mr. Barry) in the chair. There was a very large attendance of members, and some important business was got through. Nine new members were elected and five nominations received. The item on the syllabus for the night was a musical evening and a visit from the Port Melbourne branch. A first-class programme was provided and the members and visitors spent a jolly time. The visitors from Port Melbourne, in rendering thanks for the splendid way they had been entertained, said that on Northcote's next visit to their branch they hoped to return the compliment.

The celebrations attendant on the 55th anniversary of the Northcote Methodist Church will be commenced to-morrow, with three special services in the church, the preachers being the Rev. John Nall in the morning, Rev. C. Tregear in the afternoon, and Mrs. Bride Barber in the evening. The anniversary hymns, which have been under rehearsal for several weeks past, will be sung on the occasion. On Monday evening, 13th inst., comes the important event of the opening of the new school, in connection with which a concert is to be given, and appropriate addresses will be delivered. The special services will be continued on the following Sunday and the "Scholars' Night" takes place on Tuesday, March 23rd.

A meeting of the congregation of All Saints', Northcote, was held in the parish hall on Thursday last to consider the best way of celebrating the jubilee of the church. It was unanimously resolved to raise a jubilee fund to pay off all existing debts, to meet the expenses of sewerage, to thoroughly renovate the church buildings, fences, &c., and to erect a mission church in the central part of the town. It was agreed that donors to the fund might contribute to any one or more of the objects according to their preference. A strong committee was formed to carry out the proposal. Refreshments were then handed round and the meeting took the form of a conversazione.

It was learned with surprise, and also with general regret, on Thursday that the Mayor of Northcote (Cr. Tharratt) had resigned his office. He will make a statement as to the causes which have led him to take this serious step on Monday evening.

We greatly regret having to report that ex-Cr. Bastings has been so seriously indisposed during the past few days as to be confined to his bed.

Under the auspices of the Northcote South Progress League, Dr. Springthorpe, of Melbourne, will lecture at the Northcote town-hall, on Thursday next, March 18, on "A City's Recreation." Ratepayers are cordially invited.

The annual meeting of the Preston District Football Club is to be held on Friday evening, March 26th. Nominations for the offices of president, vice presidents (6), secretary, treasurer, assistant secretary, general committee (7), delegates (2), match committee (5), will be received by the secretary, Mr. W. Gibbs, 2 Jeffrey street, Preston, up to Wednesday, 17th March.

A meeting of Northcote Children's Excursion Committee to receive balance sheet and pass accounts is to be held at the town hall on Thursday evening next, 18th inst.

The Northcote I.O.R. hold their monthly temperance entertainment in the Kimberley-hall on Wednesday evening next.

With a membership of 165 the Hope of Northcote Juvenile Rechabite Tent can boast of being the largest juvenile Rechabite tent in Victoria.

Invitations have been issued by the Northcote South Ratepayers' Association to a musical evening, which will take place in the parish hall, High street, next Tuesday, at 8 p.m. An enjoyable programme has been arranged, and a large attendance is expected.

A meeting of the committee in connection with the last Preston Children's Excursion is called for Thursday evening next, 18th inst., to pass accounts and receive balance-sheets.

Lieut. Colonel Braithwaite, of Preston, being about to take a trip home, Cr. Allchin, the president of the shire has convened a meeting for Tuesday evening next, 16th inst., at the shire hall, of those interested in giving him a suitable "send off".

Mrs. Townsend's dancing assembly opens the season this evening in the Bradford hall, Preston.

A solitary debt case—Mrs. Eliz. Cleeland v. Mrs. Harvey, claim for 18/6 goods sold and delivered—was all there was to occupy the attention of Dr Cole, P.M., and Messrs Tharratt, Plant, McIntosh, J's.P., who constituted the Bench at the Northcote court on Monday.

Hattam and Hattam, drapers, Northcote, announce the last days of their summer sale.

High-Class Tailoring.

Of course, there are arguments in favor of low grade tailoring, but what about the contra arguments? When a man considers both sides of the question he generally concludes that the low grade side of the question isn't worth much.

We have a 25 years' reputation for HIGH-CLASS TAILORING at REASONABLE PRICES.

GEORGE WARDROP

THE GOOD-VALUE TAILOR,

CORNER SMITH and JOHNSTON STS, COLLINGWOOD.

Ring up 4495 for Patterns.

Solemn Requiem Service at Northcote.

On last Thursday a Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated in the chapel of The Little Sisters of the Poor, Northcote, on behalf of the Little Sisters and inmates who perished in the recent earthquake in Calabria and Sicily. The Mother General of the Order had expressed a wish that a similar service be held in all their numerous homes in various countries.

On the present occasion Dean Phelan, V.G., administrator, in the absence of Archbishop Carr, presided. The Gregorian Chaunt of the mass was rendered by the clergy, of whom about 20 were present, the Rev. J. Carroll being celebrant, the Rev. Father McKenna, of St. Francis', Melbourne, as deacon, and the Rev Father Rohan, of St. Brendan's, Flemington, as sub deacon.

Dean Phelan delivered an appropriate address, in which he expressed the deep sympathy of all with the sisters and inmates of the home in the sudden and awful calamity which had befallen their fellow-sisters and inmates of their homes in Italy and Sicily. The sisters here were engaged, he said, in an admirable work of self-sacrificing labour for the aged destitute and infirm. They devoted their lives and spent themselves in providing a home and going about daily gathering means to support and clothe so many old people in infirmity and need, and this irrespective of the creed or nationality of those who were sheltered beneath their roof. After the lesson and model of their Divine Master their hearts went out kindly to all God's poor in practical sympathy and help. Recalling the words of St. Ambrose, a doctor of the Christian church about A.D. 380, relating to a Christian lady—"We have loved her through life, let us not abandon her in death, until by our prayers and good works we have conducted her to the eternal tabernacle"—the Dean said that the nuns, showing to the aged inmates all the love and attention of most devoted daughters, not only aided them to their utmost in life, but with true and tender Christian feeling pleaded in most fervent prayer for them that after death they might not be cast away for ever, but might come to enjoy the vision of God. Even the most perfect here will offend sometimes, and somewhat, and expiation in another state and intercessory prayer by the faithful here are needful for the soul which has been called away by its Maker, not in wilful rebellion, but in faith and repentance. They remembered, too, the dying words of the sainted Monica, mother of St. Augustine, about the end of the fourth century of the Christian era—"Lay your mother here (Ostia, at the mouth of the Tiber in Italy), only I ask you to remember me at the altar of the Lord." So the memorial sacrifice of Christ's oblation on Calvary had been offered up by devoted children for those who have held for them the place of beloved parents. Thus, the heart of the true Christian went out in practical service and love for others, not only in life but also in death. The reverend Dean concluded with a fervent prayer for eternal rest to The Faithful Departed.

THE CLIFTON BRICKWORKS.

The employes of the above recently held a very successful picnic at Diamond Creek, and to make a proper setting for the presentation of the prizes won at same a concert and social was held at the shire hall on Thursday evening last. There was a good attendance, and Mr. J. A. Gamble, manager of the works, presided.

The programme submitted was a good one, the promoters evidently having plenty of talent at their command. Miss F. Homuth, who has a fine, full soprano voice, which she knows well how to use, scored a decided success in "May Morning" and "To-Night," for both of which she was enthusiastically encored, kindly obliging with added numbers. Such singing has rarely been heard in the shire hall. Miss Homuth was ably accompanied by Miss Olive Alexander, who also played a couple of solos, "Hussrowitt," and "Capricante," in which she showed great cleverness. In competition Miss Alexander has shown herself far above the average, and if she continues to persevere, there should be a bright future as a pianist before her. Though suffering from a bad throat Mr. S. Richardson went through his allotted part—a humorous song—gamely and like the thorough artist that he is, and the audience marked approval by a pronounced encore. There was quite the professional air, also, about Mr. J. P. Sargent, who, after his humorous song "Percy," was made to pay the usual penalty of having to add another item. Miss Ivy Kolle was programmed for a couple of songs and met with a decidedly encouraging reception in her first, "Dear Old Dad." As an out and out character comic, Mr. Alec Fisher, one of the employes, made it plain that he could hold his own with the best. Both his songs hit the popular taste so well that approval was signified in roof-lifting encores. Mr. Bruce sang "The Flight of Ages" in acceptable style, and the accompaniments throughout were well played by Miss Olive Alexander.

At the conclusion of the programme, Mr. W. A. Angliss, the proprietor of the Clifton brickworks, was introduced by Mr. Gamble to present the prizes. Mr. Angliss said he would like to have been present at the picnic where the prizes were won, but unfortunately he was too busy during the hot season of the year to indulge in picnics. He was pleased, however, to hear that they had spent such an enjoyable day. He hoped it would be only one of many picnics, and that each would be better than the last, also that the prizes, which certainly were very nice this year, would become more and more handsome as the years went by.

The prizes were then handed over and duly acknowledged by the recipients, Mr Machar getting a special cheer on being presented with Mr. Angliss's splendid silver cup as the winner of the mile race.

Subsequently the room was cleared and the company engaged in dancing, which was continued to the evident enjoyment of all parties till midnight.

Edison on Labour and Drink.

Mr. Edison has been making very important comparisons with regard to unskilled labor in connection with his experiments at Orange. "The British mechanic," he said, "was as good as any in the world." "But your unskilled labour," he said, "is the worst I have handled. You have lost so many of your industries that you have apparently an army of people who either want work or can't work. Placing the skilled American working man at 90 per cent., your unskilled laborers are not 30 per cent. in working value. They are not equal to the Greeks whom I employ, or even to the Southern Italian. I ascribe the cause to too much alcohol."

HOW TO HELP YOUR TOWN.

Talk about it.

Write about it.

Buy all you can in it.

Remember that by assisting tradespeople, you help the place along.

Treat strangers with the utmost courtesy and hospitality, so that they may take away good impressions of it.

Elect good reliable men to all public positions, not because they strain themselves for popularity, but on account of their stamina and trustworthiness.

Keep the money in the town. Sell all you can and buy all you can at home. The men who have invested in stores, workshops, and other business places are building up the town, and they should be encouraged.

NORTHCOTE CHILDREN'S EXCURSION.

The fifteenth Northcote Children's Excursion took place on Tuesday last, and was certainly one of the most successful and enjoyable ever held. The number attending was estimated at between 1600 and 1700 and four special trains were chartered to convey them to the place of holding, Mentone. The weather, which was dubious up to the last, fortunately turned out fine, the sun shining brightly, with pleasant breezes, as the trains with their freights of joyous lads and lasses steamed away from Northcote platforms. At the seaside the atmosphere was most bracing, giving all a chance to enjoy themselves to the full. With a consideration that was commendable the refreshment committee provided each child, on arrival at Mentone, with a bun or cake to stay the pangs of hunger till such time as dinner came round. The great attraction of the morning was the sports, and kept the majority engaged, but many hundreds were left to ramble off on to the beach or in to the ti-tree and form picnic parties, &c. The refreshment committee, like the sports committee, had made admirable arrangements, which were carried out like clockwork, there not being the slightest hitch in the provisioning of the twelve to fifteen hundred children and there was enough and to spare for all. To all those ladies and gentlemen who collected the funds and prizes, who spent the whole of Monday afternoon in cutting up the provisions and also gave up their day for the children's pleasure on Wednesday, the very best thanks are due. There is no doubt about it this year's picnic was blessed with a splendid lot of workers. Amongst those present were the mayor (chairman of the picnic committee) and mayoress (Cr. and Mrs. Tharratt), taking the liveliest interest in the proceedings. Mr Membrey, M.L.A., also came along in the afternoon. Other councillors who favoured the outing with their patronage were Crs. Hayes, H. Bastings, and Woolhouse, the last-named being the energetic secretary of the affair. The head masters of the central and Prince of Wales' Park State Schools (Messrs E. C. Bishop and H. C. Hanna) were also present rendering a helping hand; also Messrs Kay, Ludlow, and McPherson, members of the Board of Advice. There has been some talk of discontinuing these excursions, but this would be a pity seeing the vast amount of pleasure they give to hundreds of our children, to many of whom, doubtless, it is the red-letter day of the year.

THE SPORTS.

At no previous picnic has such a large amount of interest been taken in the sports. For some of the events there were over 100 entries and five or six heats had to be run off before the numbers were sufficiently reduced to allow of the final tussle. Dead heats were not uncommon and nearly all the finishes were so close that the judges had difficulty in placing the competitors. The girls were just as keen in these sporting events as the boys and many of them showed quite remarkable fleetness of foot. The winner of the Tharratt handicap was R. Scott, who takes the mayor's gold medal, while the winner of the Mayoress's handicap, entitling to Mrs. Tharratt's gold medal, was Ruby Beatty. Another gold medal donated by Mr. W. Walker, watchmaker and jeweller, of High street, South, was won by Roy Marshall after a dead heat in the final. The water race, which had to be run in rather a rough sea, caused a lot of fun, and was won by H. Knight. The following were the results in the several events:

BOYS' EVENTS.

Northcote handicap.—Roy Marshall 1, C. Sharp 2, H. Humphries 3.

Siamese race.—Shepherd and Tacey 1, Moloney and Morrison 2, Broadhurst and Roberts 3.

Tharratt handicap.—R. Scott 1, J. Morrison 2, Loy Lacey 3.

Boot jumble race.—H. Knight 1, J. Sturken 2, J. Morrison 3.

School handicap.—J. Nairn 1, A. Underwood 2, L. Letley 3.

Water race.—H. Knight 1, A. Burge 2, G. Welch 3.

Boys, under 8.—Herbert Dunn 1, Norman Forsyth 2, Wallace Scott 3.

GIRLS' EVENTS.

Northcote handicap, under 12.—Bella Tonkin 1, Isabella Cochrane 2, E. Ricketts 3.

Handicap 75 yards, under 10.—Connie Williams 1, Emily Burton 2, Doris Allambee 3.

Skipping race, under 15.—Ruby Beatty 1, Edith Coates 2, Katie Burton 3.

Mayoress's handicap.—Ruby Beatty 1, Vida Zevens 2, Marjory Clarke 3.

Thread winding race.—Lily Aldridge 1, Annie Bain 2, Kathleen Sheehy 3.

Girls race, under 8.—Grace Tonkin 1, Emily Aldridge 2, May Clarke 3.

Throwing the tennis ball.—Marjory Clarke 1, Dorothy Leith 2, Mary Emmett 3.

There was also numbers of "tiny toddlers'" races and judging by the look on the faces of the winners—and they were pretty well all winners—they were just as proud of their prizes as were the gold medal winners.

The Board of Public Health and Consumption Cases.

A BELATED REPLY.

Dr. Norris chairman of the Board of Public Health wrote to the Preston council on Monday evening acknowledging receipt of council's letter of the 24th ult, asking for reply to letter sent on March 11, 1908.

The council's first letter enclosed:—(1) An extract from the *Preston Leader*, of 29th February, 1908, reporting court proceedings in a suit for maintenance by Mrs Gay against her husband, H. Gay, a consumptive; and (2) a printed resume of secs. 137, 138, 140 and 141 of the Health Act, and asked for a reply to the following request for information submitted by the officer of health, viz:—"Would the council kindly ask the Board whether this person is to be prosecuted; or if the Board is now convinced that its proclamation of those sections of the Act is unnecessary, cowardly and cruel."

As it was considered that the council was not serious in its desire for answers to the questions submitted it was not thought necessary to reply, but in view of the repeated wish of the council for information on the points set out. I beg to state:—

(1). That the particulars given in the newspaper cutting appear to disclose no ground for a prosecution under the Health Acts.

(2). That the Board is not aware that the application of the provisions of Section 125 of the Health Act in respect of pulmonary tuberculosis has been unnecessary in any district yet dealt with, or that the result of this step has so far been cowardly or cruel.

There is reason on the contrary to believe that the action of the Board has been productive of much good, and it is to be hoped that both the Board and municipal councils in their administration of the Health Act will be able to continue to avoid taking any action that could be described as "cowardly or cruel."

The president moved that the letter be referred to the committee of the whole and the health officer requested to attend. The letter referred to had been sent to the Board over 12 months ago and they had been waiting for an answer ever since. At first they were told they were lax in not notifying cases, but when they did bring under notice a case they got no reply.

Cr. Robertson seconded. Carried.

Preston Branch, A.W.A.

The last meeting was held in March 1st, the president (Miss Ozanne) in the chair. Two members proposed and one elected. It was decided to hold a grand ball in the shire hall on May 7th, in conjunction with the A.N.A., an evening will be given to the A.N.A. on the 31st inst. After business Miss Eva Smith entertained members and visitors with gramaphone selections.

MUNICIPAL COUNCILLORS AT PLAY.

A GAME OF BOWLS.

Notwithstanding it was such a close finish Northcote councillors made no attempt to win back from their Preston *confreres* the "ashes" of cricket, but instead the mayor challenged them to a game at bowls. President Allchin and his doughtly followers, though acknowledging from the outset that their chances were not too rosy at the greensward game, were yet determined not to be caught napping, and so could be seen assiduously practising the gentle art on the new Preston green on many evenings prior to the famous bout on "ye village green" at Northcote. Some of their number made capital headway with the game, which, coupled with the rumour that Northcote was to be without the services of their champion (Cr. Mitchell) and also of Cr. Plant (who was away in the country) caused Preston stocks to rise considerably. When the eventful afternoon came round Preston councillors, and also the officers, came down in their full strength, and were accompanied by their wives or lady friends, for whose entertainment afternoon tea was served, and they also had the pleasure of witnessing their "lords and masters" do battle for them on the green. The mayoress of Northcote, the hostess on the occasion, together with a number of the wives of local councillors being added, they made a goodly company, and when the whole four rinks were in play and numbers of interested spectators were scattered about, the scene was quite an animated one. The game was much enjoyed. Of course there were an undue number of "ditchers," the Preston secretary being a special sinner in that respect, and "wrong biassed bowls," but this only added to the fun. The most amusing incident of the day probably was when Cr. Howe, having used his own two bowls in drawing a shot and gone very close, thought he might just do the trick if he had a third. So he picked up a bowl and let go. Alas! he took out one of his own bowls which was lying second shot and left his opponents, led by the artful Cr. McIntosh, lying four. Evidently the sign of the pawnbroker does not affiliate with bowls. Cr. McIntosh's rink, assisted by this coup, finished 14 up, whilst Cr. Harry's rink, playing against Cr. Crispe's rink were only 6 up after a ding-dong go, the scores being at one stage 16-15. Preston claimed Mr. Whalley of the local press to play for them, and the rink he led managed to get home winners as against the rink skippered by Cr. Hayes, the scores being 23-18. Mr. R. B. Lawrence, president of the N.B.C. was on the ground and showed the visitors every courtesy.

The following were the rinks and scores:—

	P.	N.
Allchin, Withrington, Hamilton, Howe	9	... —
Tharratt, Launder, Swift, McIntosh	—	... 23
Howse, Warr, Wilkinson, Whalley	23	... —
Thomson, Chappell or Little, Bastings, Hayes ...	—	... 18
Stanlake, Robertson, Paterson, Crispe	16	... —
Bainbridge, Membrey, Robb, Harry	—	... 22
	48	63

The game over the mayor and mayoress escorted their guests to the town hall where a nice tea awaited them. This having been discussed with good appetite, the following toast-list was gone through:—"The King," proposed by the mayor; "The Preston Council," proposed by the mayor and responded to by Cr. Allchin; "Parliament," proposed by the mayor and responded to by Mr. J. G. Membrey, M.L.A.; "The Officers," proposed by Cr. Hayes and responded to by Messrs T. J. Withrington (Preston) and W. G. Swift (Northcote); "The Ladies," proposed by Cr. J. P. Howe, and responded to by Cr. Robertson; "The Chairman," proposed by Cr. Allchin and responded to by Cr. Tharratt; and "The Press," proposed by Cr. H. Bastings, and responded to by Mr. Whalley. Most of the speeches took a humorous turn, but there were many references to the pleasant afternoon spent and the mayor's hospitality.

After tea further pleasures awaited the guests in the shape of a programme of dances, and also musical numbers and recitations by Mrs. Swift, Mrs. Whalley, Miss Olive Swift, Cr. J. P. Howe, and Messrs G. H. Hamilton and H. Chappell. The company broke up about 11 with "Auld Lang Syne" and "Three cheers for the Mayor and Mayoress," after a most enjoyable afternoon and evening.

MARRIAGE.

A very pretty wedding was celebrated at Mr. F. Rowe's, No. 10 Union avenue, on 3rd March, between Mr. Watson, late of Sydney, and Miss Amy Rowe, daughter of Mr. W. P. Rowe, of Rutherglen, & niece of Mr. F. Rowe. The Rev. A. E. Albiston officiated. The bride, who was given away by her uncle, wore a very handsome empire gown of white silk trimmed with lace and silver trimmings. The bridesmaid, Miss Hilda Rowe, cousin of the bride, wore white silk voile trimmed with silk lace. The bridegroom's present to bridesmaid was a handsome opal ring. Mr. Alec Duncan acted as best man. After the ceremony a reception was held in the Friendly Societies' Hall, Wimble street, where breakfast was served to 40 guests. The presents included:—Handsome silver-mounted purse of sovereigns; sewing machine, Mr. Duncan, Merri street; linen, Mrs. Duncan; handsome picture, Misses A. and J. Duncan; handsome picture, Messrs J. and A. Duncan; silver cruet, Mr. and Mrs. Rowe and family; marble clock, two pairs of hand-painted vases, silver ware, water jug, and glasses, gifts from Sydney friends; cheque from Mr. Muntz, Nathalia; silver cruet, Miss Jenson and Mr. W. Rowe; silver egg cruet and butter dish, vases and linen, mother, brother & sister; salad bowl, Mr. and Mrs. Asden; silver cake stand, Mr. and Mrs. Bishop; pair of handsome pencil sketches, framed, Mr. and Mrs. Benedict; and many other very handsome presents.

P.A.F.S. Lady Northcote.

The above held their quarterly meeting in the Druid's hall, Wimble street, on 4th March. There was a good attendance and six new members were proposed. The next meeting will be held on the 18th inst.

Order your Summer Suit NOW!

Men who are tailored elsewhere always admire the set of our clothes because they imagine they must have come from an expensive tailor's. When they learn our prices they are surprised how it can be done for the money—but we do it, though it's too long a story to tell here.

T. TREVENA,

THE RELIABLE TAILOR,
SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD.

The Very Latest in Summer Fancy Vests.

WEAR A KING HAT!

A HAT that you can depend upon to give you real honest service—a Hat that is guaranteed by Practical Hatters—a Hat that has Quality, Shapeliness, Style.

"THE KING," 6/6 to 10/6.

Obtainable only from

T. TREVENA, THE HAT KING.
Telephone 410, City.

PRESTON BOWLING CLUB.

OPENING OF THE NEW GREEN.

Several Preston residents, having experienced the fascination of bowls, some six months ago determined, with others, that Preston should have a bowling green of its own. The difficulties in the way of such an undertaking are always great, but there being behind this particular venture men who were resolved to see the thing through, all obstacles were overcome and a green was soon an accomplished fact. The new green is well situated in High street, immediately adjoining the post office and right opposite the Murray station. One day in the future, no doubt, the electric tram will pass the gates. The green is of five rinks, and there is sufficient land at the back to duplicate this when the occasion arises. A neat pavilion is already one of the appointments and here will foregather the players of many a pleasant game in the time to come.

The ceremony of opening the new green was fixed for Saturday last, and at the invitation of the president of the club (Lieut. Col. Braithwaite) and Mrs. Braithwaite there was a large gathering present. The hosts had made provision for a very bright function. Strings of bunting had been put up, Di Gilio's band engaged to "discourse sweet music," and buffets and marquees provided where guests could go and refresh themselves in whatever way the palate dictated. Shortly before the opening ceremony, however, the rain commenced to fall and damped everything, that is with the exception of the spirits of the company, which were as buoyant as if Old Sol had been shining his brightest. The downpour brought the hosts face to face with a new situation, but they were equal to the emergency. They took their guests across to the shire hall, where, to the fine music of Di Gilio's band an impromptu dance was soon in full swing and everybody enjoying themselves and having a real jolly afternoon after all. Three cheers were called and heartily given for Mr. and Mrs. Braithwaite at the conclusion of the last dance, about 6 o'clock.

But to come to the opening ceremony. It was rather unique. The principals had to take the green and make their speeches, &c., under the shelter of umbrellas, for the rain never ceased to descend.

The president of the V.B.A. (Mr. G. C. Clausen), introduced the president of the club.

Colonel Braithwaite, who, under the adverse conditions wore an air of jollity that Mark Tapley might have envied, expressed his pleasure at seeing such a large assemblage present. He was sorry, though, the sun was hiding itself, but the smiling faces before him more than made up for that. (Laughter.) A bowling green for Preston had been so long talked of that the people began to wonder whether they would really ever have one, but now, at last, it was an accomplished fact, at a considerable amount of expense, of course, and it remained to be seen whether the promoters' anticipation of support would be realised. The only thing he had known about bowls till lately was that certain famous English captains, when playing a game of bowls, and when told the Armada was coming, said they must finish their game before going to finish off the Spaniards. From the Encyclopædia Britannica, though, he had found the game had only been respectable this last 100 years. (Laughter.) Before that it could only be played under all sorts of pains and penalties. A game that was good enough for the captains of the Spanish Armada was, however, a good enough game for him, and when he looked round at the genial faces of the bowlers present he thought it must be a very good game indeed. As bowling was a game that could be played by old and young, rich and poor, ladies and gentlemen—in fact the only "universal game"—(laughter), he thought the municipality might establish a bowling green at the back, and it could be watered with the water from the municipal baths—when they were made. (Laughter.) Col. Braithwaite said he might now give a few facts in connection with the green. The first thing necessary for a bowling green was the land, and this a syndicate consisting of Messrs Broadhurst, Zwar, Walker, and himself had purchased, and they were now giving the club 12 years to pay for it. The laying down of the green and erection of a pavilion were the next items. At first they calculated on spending £250, but it would be more like £350. They had decided to issue 200 debentures, 160 of which had been allotted. As they did not want to be selfish and take too many there were still a few available to such as desired them. (Laughter.) Col. Braithwaite then introduced the president of the shire to open the green.

Cr. Allchin said this was one of the greatest pleasures of his life. *The* greatest was when he stood at the altar with a young and blushing bride by his side. The reason why he had not taken an active part in the establishment of this green was because he was at the time interested in the library, and wanted to see a library building erected first, and at the next meeting of the bowling club he would like the secretary to nominate him as a member—(cheers)—though he would say that he at present believed cricket to be the "King of games." He must congratulate the promoters on this beautiful green and wish it every success. On behalf of the council he would also like to thank the club for allowing them to practice on the green for their match with Northcote council. He had now very great pleasure in declaring the green open.

Mr. G. C. Clausen said that under the circumstances they would not expect any remarks from him—it was very damp out there. (Laughter). He would like to say though that the president of the club appeared to have become an enthusiastic bowler very soon, as it was only the other day he had the honor of giving him his first lesson, but that day he informed him that he was going to "take him down." (Laughter). In view of the weather they had postponed the contest to that day 12 months. (Laughter)

Amidst cheers Mrs Allchin, wife of the shire president, then threw down the first "jack" and Mrs. Braithwaite, wife of the president of the club, bowled the first bowl.

Then, by way of showing the ladies that it was a game in which they could participate, Mrs. Ballard (daughter of Mr. G. C. Clausen) a champion amongst feminine bowlers sent up a couple of bowls. A "demonstration" of the game was also given by rinks led by Cr. Plant and Mr. Schleiffordecker, but "five up" was quite enough to satisfy even their enthusiasm for the game.

Altogether it was a rather unique green opening.

BOWLING.

THORNBURY PROGRESSIVE RINK TOURNAMENT.

The following is the result of section 4 played on Thursday evening:—

Bowes, Ward, Beattie Shaw (Carlton)	won 10 ends	
Smith, Jamieson, Dyer, Barstow (Collingwood) ...	„ 9	„
Fidler, Maloney, Madden, Riddell (City) ...	„ 8	„
Booth, Duggan, Wimpney, J. Duggan (Prince's Park) ...	„ 7	„
Foreman, Irving, Winbladn, Oakley (North Fitzroy) ...	„ 6	„
Brower, Adams, Hutchison, Bennett (Prince's Park) ...	„ 4	„
Ingham, Smith, Coglo, Gilpin (Thornbury)	„ 4	„

Thornbury played a five-rink friendly match against Kew and Studley Park on Tuesday night last on the Thornbury green.

Thornbury, 102

1.	McDougall, Naughton, Farley, Harry	20
2.	Miss King, Miss Adams, Dickason, Adams...	15
3.	Boyd, Littlejohn, Coglo, Gilpin ...	18
4.	Harris, Workman, Smith, Stephens	24
5.	Ingham, Whitcoak, Brown, Horsfall	25

Kew and Studley Park, 82.

1.	Wishart, Derham, Gordon, Laing ...	10
2.	McCrae, Barnacle, Andrew, Serle ...	10
3.	Archer, Ralph, Roberts, Cornish ...	10
4.	W. Bradshaw, Greenham, Mansfield, Todd	12
5.	Sharpe, D. Bradshaw, A. Mansfield, Edgar	10

Thornbury four-rink team play a friendly match against Cheltenham at Thornbury to day, and the three-rink play a friendly match at Williamstown. On Tuesday night, March 16th, five rinks from North Fitzroy will play a friendly match on the Thornbury green, and on Thursday night, March 18th, the final of the Thornbury progressive rink tournament will be played off.

Northcote A.W.A.

The fortnightly meeting was held on March 1st, the president (Mrs. Puttifoot) in the chair. The next meeting is on March 15, for which a quoit tournament has been arranged for members and friends of the branch.

South Preston Methodist Sunday School.

Anniversary services were held last Sunday and passed off very successfully. There were large congregations, inspiring discourses, and splendid singing by the scholars. The preachers were the Rev. W. Williams, F.L.S., president of the Australian Conference, and the Rev. Horton Williams, and the musical conductor was Mr. E. von Mylius.

On Monday evening a public meeting was held and attracted a fair attendance. Mr. Membrey, M.L.A., presided. He remarked that he had been closely associated with Sunday school work for over 20 years and could testify in no uncertain way to the great good that was done. The greatest work connected with the church to day was its Sunday school work. Everything else took a secondary place. He was glad to know that there was such a large army of Sunday school workers ever ready and willing to carry on the noble work. In Victoria there were 5030 Sunday schools, 20,000 teachers, and 212,000 scholars, 118,000 girls and 94,000 boys. Notwithstanding all that was being done there was still plenty of work to do. He regarded the religious education of the young as the greatest work they could engage in, and it was to be regretted that with an unlimited field to operate in difficulty was experienced in getting sufficient teachers to carry forward the work as it should be. Unfortunately the religious education of the young was too frequently confined to the Sunday school. Parents, he thought, should more fully realise their responsibilities by insisting that their children got some religious instruction daily and there was no better place than the home for receiving it. In some Sunday schools he visited his heart warmed to see large classes of young men eager to obtain a deeper knowledge of God's word, but when they looked at the Methodist Sunday schools in Victoria to day they had to confess a sense of regret at the alarming absence of young men. The future of their nation rested with their young men, and he would urge them to become workers in the Sunday school, and by close study make themselves masters of God's word. He was glad to know that spiritually as well as numerically they had had a prosperous year, and he hoped they would continue to spread the great principles of the Saviour of the World in South Preston. (Applause).

The Rev. J. Trathan also delivered a brief address. In connection with Sunday School work, he said, there was need for serious thought. In the metropolitan district the population had increased between the years 1901 1909 by 30,321, while the number of their Sunday School scholars showed a decrease of 711. That was a lamentable fact. In Victoria in 1901 the scholars in the Methodist schools totalled 46,500, and at the beginning of 1908 they numbered 35,131, showing a decrease of 7,400. Such figures should cause them to seriously consider their position. There were several reasons which he thought might account for the diminishing attendances. The first was the indifference on the part of parents regarding the religious education of their children; the second was the ever increasing tendency to make Sunday a day of pleasure rather than to recognise their obligations to God. Defective home discipline and ineffective instruction in the Sunday schools were other causes for the deplorable loss of scholars. Sunday school work was the highest teaching of all, and it ought to be in the hands of properly trained and thoroughly qualified teachers. One of the most hopeful signs was the constant and devoted band of men and women ever ready to carry on the work. (Applause).

During the evening Miss Warr played several violin solos with much taste and proficiency, Miss Fitzgerald recited successfully, and Messrs Watson and Rogerson assisted greatly with two finely rendered solos apiece. Mr. Bullock acted as accompanist.

Mr. C. J. Watson, superintendent, and Mr. W. Congdon moved a comprehensive vote of thanks to all who assisted at the anniversary, which was carried by acclamation.

All Saints' Church, Preston.

QUARTERLY SOCIAL.

A programme of unusual excellence, a goodly muster of persons present to appreciate and honour it duly, and a hearty feeling of good-fellowship influencing all in the hall, were some of the dominant notes at the quarterly social held last Tuesday at the shire hall by the guardians and congregation of Preston All Saints' Church. With a programme containing so much that was so good it was a pity that an earlier start could not have been made, for from beginning to end there was no lack of good music, singing, and reciting. The appearance of Mrs. Norcott (Miss Ida Osborne) was a special treat. Her pure and full contralto voice was heard to much advantage in "A Farewell," a song composed to Charles Kingsley's words "My fairest child, I have no song to give thee." Naturally an encore was asked for and generously given, a dainty coon song being chosen. Later on she rendered "A slumber song" with great expression, and Miss Osborne again kindly sang an encore number. Whilst Miss Osborne's singing was of course the gem of the evening it is right to say that the rest of the music and all the entertainment provided by the executive committee were in perfect keeping with it. Miss Draper's rendering of "The Nightingale's Trill" was much appreciated, and so was the subsequent duet with Mr. Thomas, "Life's dream is o'er." Mr. Thomas also sang "The Gnome." "Roses" and "See, I bring thee flowers" were the numbers chosen by Mr. Mylius, and Mr. Isaacs' good bass voice was heard to advantage in "Will o' the Wisp." Mr. Hedley Sinclair, favorably known in former days in Preston, when his voice was sotting, showed how well it had developed in the songs "My beloved queen" and "O hear the wild winds blow." "Primroses" was sweetly sung by Miss Rojo, who accompanied Miss Myrtle Robertson also when the latter played "Moto Perpetuo" as a violin solo, and showed great talent in her rendering of the movement. "Absent" was pleasantly sung by Miss Goldburg, and Miss White's singing of "The Dream" was deservedly well received. The Misses Munro recited the amusing dialogue, "The Backward Child" very cleverly, and "By Special Request" was also recited later by the elder sister. Two choruses were sung by the All Saints' choir boys, "Home Boys," and "Jolly Sailor Boys." As this was their first public appearance on the concert platform, they were most encouragingly received and acquitted themselves well. Their conductor, Mr. Frank Howes, who, by the way, kindly acted as accompanist for many other numbers, is to be congratulated on the result achieved. With practice and energy this choir should be able later to undertake more ambitious work.

Messrs T. J. Withrington and J. P. Howe and those associated with them are to be congratulated heartily on the programme presented. The latter gentleman filled the chair admirably, and the creature comforts of the audience were very satisfactorily and kindly attended to by a committee of ladies, presided over by Mrs. Stanlake.

Of speaking there was very little, but what was said was to the point. During the interval the vicar gave notice that an Easter Fair, for which the Girls' Friendly Society have long been working, is to be held in the week succeeding Easter (April 24 is the date fixed) in the shire hall. An important move is projected by the authorities of All Saints' Church, the proposal being to build a new church, "to be an ornament to the shire and a glory to God." The G.F.S. propose to start the ball rolling with the proceeds of the Easter Fair, and as the object is so worthy a splendid response is expected. Mr. J. P. Howe endorsed the vicar's statement, and after well deserved votes of thanks had been passed to performers, to the ladies and to the chairman, a most successful evening came to an end.

Preston Branch, A.N.A.

The fortnightly meeting was held in the Bradford Hall, 3rd inst., the president (Mr. G. Kupsch) in the chair. There was a good attendance and the subjects brought forward were well discussed. One member joined by clearance. In accordance with the new laws the secretary produced the bank book, which showed that the receipts for a quarterly meeting were a record for the branch. After business a shooting competition took place between members for an A.N.A. pendant. On the first shoot six tied. One by one the competitors dropped out and the winner won with a "magpie." There will be further competitions for similar trophies. The anniversary of the branch will be celebrated by a bioscope concert in the shire hall on 21st of April, when a surprise awaits the public.

THE PITFALL

By SIR WILLIAM MAGNAY, Bart., Author of "The Master Spirit," "The Red Chancellor," "A Prince of Lovers," etc.

Published by Arrangement with Ward, Lock & Co. Ltd., Melb. & Lon.

CHAPTER XVII.

A Mysterious Light.

That evening after dining on board their yacht, Tilghman proposed, as it was bright moonlight, that they should land and take a nocturnal stroll on the island.

"It might not always be the safest way of spending an evening," he observed, as they lighted their cigars preparatory to putting off. "The male population of Nasara, I understand, follow the professions either of sponge-fishers or pirates, for the most part both. Still, with a magnificent specimen of Turkish authority practically within hail we should not run much danger to-night."

"Anyhow it will be worth risking," Dalray replied. "The rocky coast over there is bound to be lovely by moonlight. As to the professional character of the inhabitants, however, I have no doubt you are right. A more villainous set of faces, to an Englishman's ideas, at least, I never saw."

"They seem harmless enough, though, so far as our party is concerned," said Tilghman. "Still one can't help concluding when one looks at the scowling ruffians that scientific exploration does involve risk."

They landed and strolled up the broken track from the harbor to the high ground which shut it in. Thence they made their way across to the coast beyond the jutting point where the sea-girt tower stood. Here the cliffs rose sheer from the water in stern beauty, while the lights and shadows made by the full moon brought out their picturesqueness with wonderful effect.

From the height on which they stood admiring the grandeur of the moon-lit scene they could see around them for an extent which embraced nearly the whole circumference of the island. To their light, at some distance away and below them, the lesser hill capped by the stunted ruins of the castle stood boldly out against the gleaming sea. Below, the gorge ran gathering darkness till it ended in the black obscurity of the tunnel's entrance.

The two men were just turning away to continue their walk towards the, to them, unfamiliar part of the island, when Tilghman suddenly caught his companion's arm.

"What's that?" he exclaimed. "Look. That light?"

At the dark end of the ravine under the ruins a light had appeared, but by the time Dalray looked in the direction Tilghman indicated it had disappeared.

"A light?"

"It is gone now," Tilghman replied. "A small light, like that of a lantern, down there at the entrance to the underground way. I am certain of it."

"The Baron?"

"Most probably. Anyhow. I don't think we need trouble ourselves about it. It is not our business. And if it were the Baron after his treasure, he is perhaps less objectionably employed there than in staying on board and making love to Miss Chilworth."

"Decidedly," Dalray agreed, sympathetically.

"Whether it was he, Rassim or Killiotis, does not concern us," Tilghman remarked as they went on their way. "I fancy we have little sympathy with any of the trio."

"No. Although one could not help feeling this afternoon that the little Greek was being unfairly treated."

"A specimen of the Turkish mode of bullying officialism. Of course you saw that de Gastard put him up to it in order to get rid of one troublesome interloper."

"And the greedy Turk wanted no more than a hint."

They strolled on for some distance round the coast, and then, as it began to get late, turned back, taking a direct inland course towards the harbor. As they drew near the little town, which at that hour showed no sign of life, two men came round a corner of the one inn of the place and appeared walking towards them slowly and in earnest talk.

In an instant Tilghman, ever on the alert, had recognised the tall form of the Turk, and had pulled his companion aside into the concealment of an old building which stood at the edge of the rough track.

"It is Rassim," he said under his breath. "Let us stand out of sight till they have passed. I have a curiosity to see who his companion may be."

In about half a minute the slow footsteps were heard, and then in the half-light the two men appeared and passed on, evidently without suspecting the presence of the watchers who stood invisible in the black shadow.

"A curious alliance," Tilghman remarked in a tone of half-amused contempt, when the two men had passed on to some distance. "Did you recognise the ruffian our friend was with?"

"Wasn't it a fellow who loafs about the harbor?"

"Yes. A fellow whom Dixon, the Baron's steward, pointed out to me to-day as the worst character in the place. A worthy whose mode of livelihood is only to be guessed at. He owns a large kaik, and is nominally a sponge-fisher; but they say his efforts in that direction are not calculated to glut the Smyrna market."

"What can be the Bey's game with him."

"Ah! that I should like to know. But we may be sure of one thing—it means no good, and probably mischief to the Baron."

"It will be diamond cut diamond."

"Yes. For assuredly de Gastard is not particularly well disposed towards the man who so coolly proposes to share his fortune. Now, let us slip round here, and get down to the boat as quickly as we can. We shall have a much better chance of seeing the game played out if nobody suspects we take an interest in it."

CHAPTER XVIII.

Fear.

Next morning when they met, Dalray saw that Huberta Chilworth was troubled; her usual brightness and vivacity seemed to have left her, and he longed to know the cause, which he now considered himself on a sufficiently familiar footing to ask. It was, however, some time before he could get an opportunity to speak to her privately. Rassim hovered about her, with unpleasantly admiring eyes, and was assiduous in his attentions. The Baron, curiously enough, seemed indifferent to what was going on; it was almost as though there was a secret purpose in his attitude.

At length, however, after much of what seemed pretence of surveying and calculating the site of the ancient building, he intimated that he was going to resume work in the underground galleries, and took Rassim with him.

This was Dalray's opportunity.

"Something has gone wrong, Miss Chilworth," he began, boldly sympathetic. "Won't you tell me?"

Huberta gave him a wistfully searching glance. "How do you know?" she replied, hesitatingly.

"By your manner. You are not quite yourself to-day. I hope there is no offence in my asking. You know what I told you the other day."

She gave a slight nod of assent. Then, after a light embarrassed pause, she said: "I don't quite know how to tell you what troubles me. It is hardly fair to make you my confidant in such a matter."

"Hardly fair to whom—Baron de Gastard?"

She seemed to check a start at the word, and the light tone she had affected, not quite successfully, died away.

"Fair to you, I meant," she answered.

"I shall not think it fair if you don't give me your confidence in this matter," he returned earnestly. "I think I can guess its nature. Surely you can trust me, Miss Chilworth?"

"I think I can," she responded, letting her eyes rest on him.

"You may; if you can be certain of nothing else in this world," he declared warmly.

"But this—oh, I don't know how to tell you," she said with signs of agitation. "Only I have had such a fright. I daresay I am a fool to let it worry me, but out here, on the yacht——"

She paused, hesitatingly.

"You are taken at a disadvantage," Dalray supplied. "Of course I understand that. I suppose the Baron has been making love to you?"

She turned away, making no answer; but he saw that he was right.

"For Heaven's sake, Miss Chilworth," he urged vehemently, "don't, don't let any vague ideas of delicacy or propriety prevent your telling me all about it. Do you think I don't understand your position? You are here alone, practically at the Baron's mercy, since your father is naturally too much pre-occupied with the scientific side of the expedition to comprehend what I can't help thinking was its real motive."

Huberta looked round now, thoroughly alarmed. "You think he brought us here——" she began.

"Ostensibly to unearth antiquities," Dalray supplied; "in reality because he obviously admires you and wished to keep you with him in order that he might have constant opportunities of ingratiating himself."

"Yes," she said, reflectively, as the truth seemed to coincide with her experience. "It must have been that. I ought not to have come, for I half-suspected it."

Dalray came closer, and knelt by her side. They were hidden by a great projecting boulder from the line of sight up to the ravine. "Miss Chilworth," he said earnestly, "our acquaintance is a very short one, but for all that I hope you know me well enough to look upon me as a friend in whom you may implicitly confide. Will you tell me what happened last night?"

She gave a little nervous laugh. "I am sure you have guessed it. The Baron proposed to me."

Dalray drew in a quick breath. "And you—you refused him?"

She nodded. "Yes."

"I am glad of that," he said in a tone of relief.

"You don't think," Huberta said, forcing a laugh, "that I would have accepted him?"

"No," he answered frankly. "Yet the Baron has much to offer."

She gave a disdainful shrug. "Perhaps. But it does not attract me."

"No. That's well. And I am sure you are right. Well, it is a good thing the question is settled."

"If I thought it were," she murmured uneasily.

"Why, surely," he said, "if your answer were definite."

"Oh, yes. It was definite enough. Absolutely."

"I know," Dalray observed sympathetically. "You are afraid the Baron will not take it as final."

"I am sure he will not."

"But he must."

"It is easy to say that," she returned a little bitterly. "You do not know——" She broke off; then added with a sudden burst of fear that went to his heart: "Mr. Dalray, I am horribly afraid of this man."

"He persecutes you?"

"Hardly that, perhaps, although one never feels safe from it. No. It is the influence of his determined, irresistible will that terrifies me—frightens me with the horrible consciousness that it is merely a question of time—that one day I may have to yield."

She was flushed and trembling, as she uttered a confession that seemed forced from her by her unprotectedness and the fear that she had bravely striven to hide. Apart from his deeper feelings towards her, Dalray's chivalrous nature could not but be strongly moved by the implied appeal.

"You must not let this fear trouble you," he said, reassuringly. "You have two friends who will see to it that this man does not persecute you."

"How can you prevent him?" she exclaimed miserably.

"You may be assured that we can," he replied confidently. "We may have means of checking him that you little suspect. So do, my dear Miss Chilworth, dismiss all real fear from your mind."

She looked at him searchingly, hopefully for an instant, then her confidence faded again.

"You are very kind, very chivalrous, very brave," she said. "But that is no reason why I should drag you and your friend into danger. I say danger"—for he had laughed—"because I know it instinctively. That is, I know the Baron well enough to be sure that he will let nothing stand in his way when once he has set his mind on a thing. He means to force me to marry him."

"Oh, but this is absurd," Dalray protested. "These are days of law and civilisation. He cannot carry you off and marry you against your will, as he might have done in the Middle Ages." In his heart Dalray was not so sure of that, but he did not let his tone of confidence falter.

"Perhaps not," Huberta replied gloomily. "Nevertheless a strong, determined will can work its purpose to-day even as it could in those times."

"To begin with, there is your father to appeal to," he said, trying to suggest every point in her favor.

Huberta shook her head. "My father would be a broken reed here. He sees no evil in any man who is plausible enough to interest him on his weak side, poor, simple, old dear. And what would his will be, matched against the Baron's? No," she concluded miserably, "I see no hope there, but rather increased danger."

"But you must have hope and faith here in us," Dalray urged. "It is not the time, nor is it fitting that I should tell you all we suspect about this man. Suffice it to say that we are fully aware of his real character. And I may confess at once that the ardor for scientific excavation brought neither Tilghman nor me out here."

"No? What then?" she asked, apprehensively.

Dalray laughed. "I hardly dare confess it; but your confidence invites mine. Tilghman, between ourselves, came out here to keep an eye on the Baron, and I—forgive me if I offend—to be near you."

Huberta's color rose, and she looked steadily away.

"You might have guessed it," he continued in a low voice. "I have not offended you, Miss Chilworth? At least, you need not fear another persecutor in me."

She looked round at him now, and with the most delicately charming action laid her hand for a moment on his.

"Of course I am not offended," she answered. "That would mean ingratitude. And I am very, very grateful to you for your sympathy and your—your desire to protect me. I may have to ask your help to save me from my threatening fate one day, but not now."

They had risen, and she was looking at him with frank, blue-grey eyes that drew his heart out to her. The sea-breeze eddying gently through the broken ground of the ravine caught her golden-tinted hair and gave a perfecting touch of picturesqueness of romance as she stood before him. Her smile told him that he had given her courage, and he rejoiced, even though her manner signified that his own love was not to be told yet.

"That absurd Turk," she said with a laugh, as at a recollection which troubled her little.

"Ah! another of your admirers. Has he been making love too?" he asked, responding to her tone.

"Furious love. And all of a sudden. It almost took my breath away. It seems that out here they do not waste time in preliminaries. But it is rather terrifying; at least, it would be if it were not so funny. I'm afraid I almost laughed in the poor man's face. Fancy marrying him and spending the rest of one's existence in Constantinople!"

"He actually suggested that?" Dalray asked, half-amused, half-serious.

"Actually. Before we had been introduced half an hour. And repeated the proposal again last evening. He dined on board the yacht."

"And left early?"

"Yes. I hope I did not snub him too severely. But I am not quite——"

Tilghman called Dalray, and next moment appeared. "Oh, there you are. Hard at work as usual," he laughed. "The Baron is coming back, so you had better make a decent pretence of being busy while there is time."

They understood his interruption, and scrambled down to the bed of the ravine to see the Baron and Rassim coming jealously towards them.

CHAPTER XIX.

Strange Portents.

The next day Tilghman and Dalray ran their yacht over to Smyrna in order to get in certain stores that were needed. Dalray had told his friend of Huberta's fear of the Baron, and they resolved to devote all their energies now to her protection.

"The girl is justified in her apprehension of what may be the end of it," Tilghman observed. "Men of de Gastard's character, of unscrupulous, determined will, are very devils for playing the terrorist over women who are unfortunate enough to attract them, and whom the suggestion of something evil or sinister in their nature instinctively repels. There is no saying how matters may turn out in this case; but it is certainly a fortunate thing that we ignored the broad hint and persevered in our resolve to come out here."

"Whatever happens," Dalray said, with decision, "we must see to it that the girl is not sacrificed to her father's blindness, and condemned to life-long torture as the wife of such a man as de Gastard."

"Certainly," Tilghman agreed. "With our knowledge, backed by her appeal, it becomes our duty to stand between her and her threatened fate. We must put off coming to an open issue with the Baron as long as we can, but we ought to be prepared for it if necessary. And we shall best do that by keeping a sharp look-out. Matters are becoming a little complicated on the island. De Gastard's security in his treasure-find is threatened, and if we keep on the alert we may soon light upon something tangible which may give us an effective weapon against him."

"I am with you there, heart and soul," Dalray responded warmly. "I suppose we run a certain risk, but it is worth it, and in such a cause we must make light of that."

In pursuance of their line of action, when they had returned to the harbor of Nasara and dined, they quietly slipped into the dinghy and went ashore, telling the man who rowed them to return to the yacht, coming back to wait for them in two hours' time.

As they strolled observantly through the village street they passed a small khan, the only refreshment house of which the place boasted. Red curtains, through which the light shone, were drawn across the low windows of the principal guest-room. A slight gap was left at one side where they had been carelessly arranged. Mindful of what they had seen the night before, Tilghman quietly stepped aside and peeped through the opening into the room. What he saw was evidently of some import, as he motioned quickly to his companion that he should look in.

Dalray did so, and saw in a corner of the room two men sitting at a table with a flask of wine before them and engaged in earnest talk.

At a touch from his friend Dalray drew back and they went on their way.

"Wait a minute," Tilghman said as though puzzling over something, and they walked on in silence. Suddenly Tilghman spoke. "I have it. I've located the fellow. You saw those two men?"

"Yes. Wasn't one the ruffian who was walking with Rassim two nights ago?"

"Yes. But I mean the other. I know his face, but could not for the moment remember where I had seen it. You did not recognise him?"

"No."

"No. You are not likely to have noticed him at the time. It was the fellow who manipulated the Baron's views and exhibits at his lecture at the National Institute."

"Yes. That is where the significance of what we have seen comes in. I noticed the man on the night of the lecture as having a particularly objectionable cast of countenance. I set him down then, I remember, as a handy scoundrel, capable of anything from working lantern slides to removing troublesome acquaintances. And, I tell you what, my dear Hugh, I should not be in the least surprised if that fellow could tell more than any one else in this world of poor Rainger's death."

Dalray gave a shudder and laughed grimly. "The Baron's salaried assassin, you think?"

"I don't know how to think otherwise," Tilghman returned. "A low type of mongrel Turk, such as that man appears to be, would naturally think as little of slipping a dagger into a man than a butcher would of cutting a sheep's throat. And if we can conceive a man of that evil-speaking countenance bred up to look upon murder as one of the most simple and natural modes of procedure in the world we should hardly be surprised."

"If he did kill Rainger no wonder the crime remains a mystery."

"No. It would scarcely occur to our police to look for the murderer among the household of a wealthy Baron living in Mayfair."

"We had better be on our guard, eh?"

"Yes," Tilghman said, quietly. "That interesting conference presumably bodes mischief—to somebody. Perhaps to the Bey. It is curious that the local ruffian should be in the confidence of both parties. But that is scarcely our affair. No doubt matters are strained to breaking-point between the Baron and the official plunderer."

They had now arrived at a point whence the side of the ravine sloped down in front of them. They were nearly over the entrance to the excavations.

"I should like to solve the mystery of that light we saw the other night," Tilghman said. "It may be no particular business of ours, but in this peculiar situation I doubt whether we ought to treat any possible portent with indifference."

"Suppose we go down and keep watch," Dalray assented. "There is no ostensible reason why we should not look round about us."

Forthwith they descended. "Shall we go in and look round?" Tilghman proposed, when they stood before the black mouth of the cavern.

Dalray gave a ready assent, and they went in, feeling their way along the dark passage. Arrived at the large chamber, Tilghman struck a match and glanced round. There was no sign of any presence but their own. The match burned out, and they stood listening in the pitch darkness; not a sound was to be heard.

"We had better go and keep watch outside," Tilghman said. "It is not particularly pleasant in here, and I don't think——"

They were moving towards the passage that led to the open air. Tilghman suddenly stopped and pulled his companion back.

"What is it?" Dalray asked under his breath.

"Hush! Look there—in front of you. Some one is coming. Quick! Let us get back where we shan't be seen."

CHAPTER XX.

A Meeting in the Dark.

A faint glimmer of light which Tilghman, being in front, had seen first, was now quite visible in the outer passage, and slowly growing brighter as it approached. There was a shallow, alcove-like excavation near the opening. Into this the two men retreated, holding themselves as close as possible to the side in order to escape observation. So they stayed watching in breathless, thrilling curiosity for the appearance of the person whose movement they could hear as the light now streaked across the open chamber.

Next moment a man's figure appeared. Not until he had emerged well into the open space did they recognise him. It was Killiotis. He carried under his arm a pick and a small crowbar, and in the other held a lantern. He gave a hurried, furtive glance round the chamber, turned and went quickly to the long gallery which the two watchers had explored a few days before, and immediately disappeared into its windings.

"Since he is warned off by day he is determined to have a dash for treasure by night," Tilghman whispered. "So we have the simple explanation of the mysterious light. We might have guessed it."

"Yes. The little Greek looks a resolute fellow. He is not going to let the Turkish bully worst him."

"Come along," said Tilghman, making for the entrance. "We may leave him to his work. It has no particular interest for us, eh?"

They were half-way through the entrance passage, in sight of the opening and the moonlight beyond, when they both simultaneously and by a common impulse stopped dead, watching intently.

Across the irregular circle of light formed by the cave's opening a dark shadow moved, eclipsing for the moment the moon's effulgence. Again it appeared, this time remaining and darkening the entrance.

"Back!" whispered Tilghman and retreated on tip-toe to the opening whence they had seen Killiotis.

They were none too soon. As they took their stations, listening, footsteps could just be heard approaching, and then they knew that an invisible presence was within a few steps of them. Presently came the sound of a movement, then the quiet striking of a match. As the flame after its explosion steadied itself, they saw de Gastard.

Luckily his back was towards them. He held aloft the burning match for as long as a swift glance round the cavern, then blew it out, and they could tell that he was moving away, doubtless in the direction of the gallery down which Killiotis had gone.

They listened closely for a while, then Tilghman said in a low whisper:

"He has gone down the passage. Let us get out before he finds us here."

Quickly they made for the entrance, and meeting this time with no hindrance, were soon outside in the open.

"Come up here," said Tilghman, leading the way to the high ground above and behind the opening. "Let us keep watch; they will not come or probably look this way."

Having climbed to the top they lay down concealed by the long herbage, with their heads just at the edge of the low cliff overhanging the cavern of which they commanded a view.

"I'm afraid this means mischief," Dalray said in a low voice.

"Murder, eh? I should hardly think so. Although it may be a preliminary," Tilghman replied. "Now if it had been that little ruffian we saw in the khan we should have been more than justified in jumping out and interfering. But while I have no high opinion of the Baron's moral principles or scrupulousness, I should doubt whether it would suit his purpose to slay the Greek in cold blood."

"You really think so?"

"Yes. It would be unnecessary, seeing that a much easier course lies open now he has found out the fellow's nocturnal raids, in putting Rassim in his track and handing him over to the tender mercies of the Turk."

"Ah, yes. He is clever enough to see that."

"Naturally he has too much to lose to run any risk for the sake of a grubbing dealer, however annoying."

"I must say," Dalray observed, "I should like to discover the secret of this place."

"Yes; it would be interesting, if nothing more. But just now we have something more important and precious than treasure-hoards to look after. I daresay we may have a chance one of these days of gratifying our adventurous curiosity."

"Leslie," Dalray said, after a short pause, during which they lay in silence, "I am getting nervous about that plucky little devil of a Greek. What do you say to strolling down and casually seeing whether the Baron is up to any of his homicidal tricks?"

"I am quite with you," Tilghman answered. "Only, if it can possibly be avoided, I'm loath to complicate matters. It would be a mistake from the point of view of our self-appointed guardianship of Miss Chilworth."

"Still, as Englishmen, we can't realise the possibility of that fellow's being in dire peril of his life, and do nothing, when the idea of our being on the spot might save him."

"No. You are right, Hugh. Expediency must give way to humanity."

Dalray had half-risen when Tilghman put out his arm and pulled him down again. "It's all right," he whispered. "Look."

The faint sound of a man's voice reached them from below, and as, crouching down, they peeped over they could make out the figures of two men standing at the cave's entrance. Apparently Killiotis was extinguishing his lantern. That done they moved away, walking slowly up the ravine, friendly enough, it seemed, and, by their gestures, in animated conversation. When they reached the point where a rough path led up out of the hollow they ascended by it, the Baron going first. Arrived at the top, they stood for a few moments talking — the watchers thought they heard a laugh from the Greek—then they moved off in the direction of the village.

Having watched them out of sight, the two friends rose and strolled slowly along the cliffs, having no wish to overtake them.

"A curious episode," Dalray observed. "What do you think of it?"

"Why, I think," answered Tilghman, deliberately, "that the Baron de Gastard is a very clever man."

CHAPTER XXI.

An Encounter.

Next day an incident occurred which was not only unpleasant in itself, but gave color to subsequent evil happenings.

The visitors met as usual at the ruins. Although Tilghman and Dalray kept observant eyes they detected nothing suggestive of design in the demeanor of either de Gastard or Rassim. The Turk, indeed, was magnificently casual. He made no pretence of joining in the work as he had previously affected to do, but seemed determined to devote his whole energies to ingratiating himself with Huberta. It was plain, at least to Dalray, that she did not much care for this, but no doubt it was less distasteful than the attentions of the Baron, and it had the effect of keeping him off.

On this day he seemed to prefer to work in the open. There was at least a good excuse for it. The highly ornamental capital of a pillar had been laid bare by the Professor's indefatigable pickaxe, and much work and care were required to release it from its bed without damage.

So the four men busied themselves, while the Turk endeavored to philander with Huberta. Had it not been for their knowledge of de Gastard's character and intentions, the situation would have been to Tilghman more comic than serious. As it was, he told himself, he could not quite understand the Baron's easy and seemingly unaffected indifference to Rassim's behavior. It must argue, he thought, either a design he had in train, or else a profound contempt for the Turk as a rival.

But the solution of the puzzle was soon to appear.

The party had been at work for about an hour when Killiotis was seen descending into the ravine, much to the surprise of Tilghman and Dalray, which was not lessened by observing that the Greek carried his excavating tools over his shoulder. Tilghman, watching de Gastard, saw him give a swift, expectant glance at the Bey, but he said nothing. It was certain, however, that it was only the question of a few moments before the Greek would attract the notice of Rassim, whose face was so turned that the descending figure would enter his line of vision. Probably the Baron foresaw that, anyhow he went on with his work, as though leaving the situation to develop without his interference.

The expected soon happened. Suddenly the Bey, who was sitting by Huberta on the bank of the ravine, started to his feet with an exclamation of annoyance. Then he shouted to Killiotis, who had just reached the slope, and with a violent, peremptory gesture waved him to go away.

But the Greek took no notice of this beyond raising his hand with a somewhat contemptuous action as he turned towards the cavern.

This piece of effrontery, as might be expected, was enough to put the Turk's blood up. With a word to Huberta, he started forward and strode wrathfully after Killiotis.

The Baron now stopped his work and looked round at the two dissimilar figures making for the tunnel, the Turk rapidly overhauling the Greek, who walked on unconcernedly. He turned to the young men.

"I think we had better go after them," he suggested with a smile of half-amused concern. "We do not want bloodshed here; and there is no knowing——"

He had already begun to walk towards the cavern. Tilghman nodded to Dalray; they followed and joined him.

"These Greeks, to say nothing of these Turks, are desperate fellows when they are roused," de Gastard remarked lightly. "Evidently the little man means to defy our friend the Bey. We must do our best to prevent a row. I am sorry for Killiotis in his disappointment, but he is a fool to join issue with a stronger man, and one in authority."

Killiotis had arrived within ten paces of the cavern when the Turk caught him up. They stopped and faced round at each other. As the three other men came up they saw a furious altercation was on foot. The Greek's olive-hued face was grey with passion; the Turk's usual set expression of calm dignity was ugly and threatening.

"I have forbidden you to search or excavate here," he was saying, with a semblance of authoritative calmness. "I have warned you away from this place. And you dare to defy me."

"Yes," exclaimed Killiotis, coolly, except for the anger in his eyes. "You are quite correct, Excellency. You have warned me away, and I have the honor to defy you."

"So much the worse for you." The Turk ground out the words. "For your absurd attitude you shall answer hereafter. For the present I promise you you shall not lift a tool in this place."

"I mean to do so, though," Killiotis replied resolutely, and with a sharp glance at the Baron. "I dispute your right to forbid me. You have unwarrantably and wantonly destroyed my permit. It was the act of a bully. But it does not affect the fact that permission to explore has been granted me, and that I can prove."

The Turk folded his arms. "I decline to argue with you," he said in a tone which struck the Englishmen as being the very quintessence of bullying. "I have given you my orders which are to desist from working here. For the rest, you are beneath my notice."

Here the Baron interposed quietly. "Excellency, is it worth while?"

Rassim turned quickly. "My dear Baron, it may or may not be worth while to do this," he returned sharply. "But I do not intend to be defied by this huckster."

De Gastard smiled and gave a shrug. "I merely would suggest——" he began.

"Have the goodness not to interfere," snapped Rassim. "This is a matter which solely concerns me and my office."

"From which," said Killiotis, "I obtained the permit of which I intend to avail myself."

As he spoke he turned purposefully towards the entrance. Instantly Rassim strode after and passed him, placing himself so as to bar the way into the tunnel, as he turned and faced the Greek.

"Stand aside and let me pass," Killiotis exclaimed, trembling with anger at the manoeuvre which cut him off.

"Away with you, canaille!" the Turk commanded, bullyingly. "You do not pass here."

Even though it was the unthinking courage of rage, the Englishmen could not but admire the little man's pluck.

"I mean to pass in, and you shall not keep me out," he said doggedly, standing his ground.

But the Turk's great figure almost filled the narrow entrance. While he stood so, there was no room to pass.

"Will you go, wretched fellow?" he ordered scornfully.

Killiotis showed no sign of obeying. He faced his opponent resolutely with set face.

Rassim took a step forward. "Off with you," he shouted threateningly with an unceremonious fling of the arm, pointing the way up out of the ravine. "Take yourself off the island, as I have already ordered, or it shall be the worse for you. Will you go?"

The onlookers saw that the Greek looked dangerous. There was in his eyes the expression of a determined man driven just too far and stung to desperation.

"Yes. I will go—in."

He darted forward as with the intention of forcing his way into the passage. Rassim put out his hand and caught him by the shoulder, while with the other he seized the pick and crowbar which were carried strapped together. Killiotis tried furiously to free them, but his fierce efforts could not tell against the muscles of a man nearly twice his size. As each grasped the implements, the Turk pulled Killiotis back, swinging him round away from the passage, and so they stood glaring at each other with the bar and pick held between them.

"Enough of this, gentlemen," de Gastard cried. "Let us settle the dispute in a friendly way."

He might as well have remonstrated with a pair of fighting stags. Perhaps he knew that; anyhow his appeal seemed to the Englishmen somewhat lukewarm.

"Give up my property," Killiotis demanded panting.

Rassim, perhaps realising that his attitude lacked dignity, and that one or other must relinquish sooner or later his grasp of the implements, relaxed his hold with an action of throwing them from him, which sent the Greek staggering back a pace or two.

"Will you go—back to your shop, insolent little devil?" he snarled.

"When I please," Killiotis retorted, facing up to his big adversary once more.

Tilghman, who was sickening of the wretched affair, caught him by the sleeve.

"Don't keep this up, monsieur," he urged. "It is not a fair contest. Take my advice, and——"

But Killiotis had been stung too far towards madness to suffer restraint or listen to reason. Shaking Tilghman off, he made a blindly-determined rush at the passage. As he encountered Rassim, the Turk doubled his fist, hit out and felled him to the ground.

(To be continued.)

WORKSHOPS OF DANGER.

Manufacture of Explosives.

It is taken for granted that the lives of sailors and soldiers are fraught with many risks, but it may be said safely enough that the percentage of deaths in either of these two employments falls far below that of many others, the workers in which are not looked on with any great amount of interest, probably because they wear no picturesque uniforms.

Amongst all dangerous vocations, the manufacture of explosives ranks high in the list. It is prosaic enough, maybe, but the worker walks in imminent peril of his life from the time when he first opens the door of his isolated hut to the time when he closes it finally for the night. There are so many impossible-to-guard-against dangers, too. It may be a speck of sand underfoot on which the boot might grate, with a consequent spark, a flying of that spark into an explosive substance, and consequent disaster. It might be an unsuspecting ray of sun focussing itself through one of those old-fashioned bullseyes in the window-pane, and sending a heated dot of light full on to a vessel of gunpowder. It has been known for a man to be handling nitro-glycerine and for him to be seized with a paroxysm of coughing. The violent movement of the air ensuing has so vibrated the surface of the explosive as to cause it to blow up, with terrific results.

Of course, the makers of explosives adopt innumerable precautions. Technically, their work is safeguarded on every hand; each work occupies a single hut, the door of which is never fastened, so that on the merest appearance of impending danger the worker can fly for his life. Sufficient distance separates each cabin to guarantee the blowing up of one not affecting the other; felt-covered shoes or rubber boots are the regulation wear; no matches are allowed to be carried; a man's clothes are searched before each morning's work that no grits may lurk in their folds. But even with all this, there are innumerable dangers. Especially so with nitro-glycerine and fulminate of mercury—this latter being the explosive medium used for detonating fuses and percussion caps. Nitro-glycerine is an unexpected explosive. As workers among it will tell you, it is possible on some occasions to strike matches in the stuff at one time without evil effects, whilst at another to look at it merely means disaster.

To compile a list of the deaths and mutilations from the manufacture of explosives would occupy much time and space. But one case may be quoted in support of the opinion expressed. One worker in a nitro-glycerine works was testing the awful fluid. It was necessary to get the stuff to a certain temperature; to go a single degree beyond that presented a possible cataclysm. This worker saw one jar begin to smoke—"fume off," as the technical expression goes. She turned to the door and ran. The actual danger spot remained undisturbed, but in her flight she knocked down another jar of nitro-glycerine, which went off with a mighty roar, and blew the woman a distance of over a hundred yards. When picked up she was stone dead—without a bruise on her body!

GEORGE AND MARY'S MARRIAGE.

A Put-up Job.

The other week George Day came to the vicarage to see me about something of importance. I knew it was important by the length of time he took in coming to the point, for George owns the biggest shop in the fishing village of Stanhaven, and as becomes a good salesman he is not naturally slow of speech. For fully a quarter of an hour he sat pulling the collie's ears and making monosyllabic replies to my questions.

"And how's Mary?" I asked in desperation. The question seemed to wake him up.

"You see, sir, it's like this. Mary an' me were to be married this month. I nodded, and he went on gloomily: "But it looks as if we ain't goin' to be."

I looked at him in surprise. "Why not?"

"Well, her old father was against it, but Mary, she didn't take much notice of him, and she said she'd marry me whether the old man liked it or not. I said he could come an' stop with us, an' he'd 'a done that, but he went an' got drownded in the storm."

"Well, that should have removed all difficulty."

George scratched his head.

"It didn't. Mary says now as how the old man must 'a had some reason for objectin'. She says—oh, a lot o' tommy rot about second sight and the dead knowing what's for the best, and all that sort o' caper; an' the long an' short is that she says she ain't goin' to have me."

I called on Mary next day to plead George's cause, but no argument would move her.

"'Tain't no use, sir; it 'ud be flyin' in the face of Providence," she said.

But a few days later I received a visit from Mary. George was too busy to come, she explained, but she wanted to make arrangements for the wedding as early as possible.

"How's this, Mary?" I asked, surprised at the sudden change.

"Oh, sir, didn't you hear? Matt Taylor picked up a bottle in the harbor last night an' when he broke it there was a letter from my old dad sayin' as how they didn't expect to see Stanhaven never no more, an' he hoped as how me an' George 'ud be happy. Dad, he weren't eddicated, and he must 'a got one of the other chaps to write the letter and put it in the bottle."

I was very glad to hear the news, and the preparations for the marriage went ahead. I didn't see much of George until the great day came. I took him aside after the ceremony and congratulated him.

"And what a lucky thing for you that Matt Taylor found that bottle," I concluded.

"Yes, sir, yes," said George. Then with a glance round to see that no one was listening, he whispered, "I thought he'd find it. You see, sir, I—I throwed it in myself!"

'Ear! 'Ear!

A meddlesome woman riding in a tramcar sneered at a young mother's awkwardness with her baby.

"A woman ought never to have a baby until she knows how to hold it," she said.

"Nor a tongue either!" quietly responded the young mother.

She (after elopement): I received a letter from papa to-day.

He: Well?

She: He writes that he had just finished making his will.

He: Did he remember us?

She: Yes, indeed. He has left all his money to an asylum for hopeless idiots.

DAIRYING.

DAIRY JOTTINGS.

Weigh and test the milk of each cow, and remove those that do not pay a margin of profit. Study the breed and decide on the line of breeding that best suits your fancy and your conditions. Then pick out a pure-bred bull that is large and strong, well developed, and that has the dairy type and an ancestry behind him of cows that have done good work.

A real, shrewd, live dairy farmer will make it his business to know what a cow should earn, in order to bring him a fair profit. This he must do by comparison, either in reading or by observation. In no other way can he learn so well. A real, shrewd dairy farmer realises that he must either read or travel extensively to see what other men's herds are doing. It has simply amazed hundreds of men when they once wake up to see in what a place of darkness they have been living.

A cow may be better than she looks or worse than she looks. The only way to tell one is to live with her. Get rid of the poor ones—they take the bread out of our mouths, but the more promising ones may surprise you, with judicious feeding. Put them to the test; shelter them from storms; be kind to them; don't try to half starve them on a half dry pasture, but give them plenty of feed all the year round. Send your scrub bull to the butcher and get the best bull of your breed that you can buy. The dairy cow is a wonderful creature. From the food she eats she must maintain her physical well-being, nourish her young, and furnish milk for her master.

Successful dairying depends largely upon the care with which the milk is weighed and tested. The scales and the Babcock test are the only accurate means of knowing whether a cow is doing well or poorly. Measuring the milk will not tell the story, because some cows' milk is richer than the milk from other cows that looks all right. It is not safe to depend on looks, or the rule of thumb.

Usually there is little, if any, attempt made to keep an account of the milk produced. If a cow gives a fair amount of milk she is considered a good cow, whether the milk is rich or thin. Whether the flow is flush when fresh, and dwindles to little or nothing in six or eight months, or whether she gives a reasonable quantity during her whole period she is giving milk is a question that seldom interests the farmer. Some of these cows eat their heads off, while others return only a small profit, but the farmer, as a usual thing, does not know it.

Don't be afraid to put money in a good bull. Bring up the heifers carefully, with the end always in view of making them the best possible producers of dairy products. You begin to get some animals that suit your fancy and stir your pride, and the boys are interested as they never could be in the old stock. Right here let us say don't add the dairy work to the regular farm work, but make it a part of the farm work. Take time to attend to it properly, and make the hours in the field correspondingly shorter.

The four C's of the dairy business are Cows, Comfort, Cleanliness, and Cold. The matter of cleanliness is suggested the moment we think of milk and milking. Whole volumes have been written about the necessity of everything being clean about milk, because that fluid is so impressionable, not alone to tastes imparted to it by filth in solid and liquid forms, but to odors as well, coming into it through the air. Cleanliness begins, therefore, in the stable, and is continued through the entire history of the milk.

A very important item to be considered in starting the dairy herd is the selection of the dairy farmer himself. Some are by nature better fitted for the business than others. As a rule, every man has some particular kind of live stock which he prefers to all others. The successful dairies, as a rule, are owned and operated by those who like cows, who are admirers of some special breed, and are willing to do at least a part of the work of caring for them with their own hands.

The expression "a well-shaped udder," is frequently heard among those having to do with the handling of dairy cows. What does it mean? It means an udder which is deep and square in shape, is carried well forward under the cow's belly, and has the teats placed at its four corners—practically equi-distant from each other. Cows possessing udders of this type may usually be counted on to do themselves credit at the pail. In contradistinction to the well-shaped udder, it is well to make reference to the badly-formed milk-bag—the udder which, when viewed from the side, presents the appearance of a triangle, with the base laid against the cow's abdomen, and the apex pointing to the ground. Such an udder usually hangs loosely between the cow's legs.

FITNESS FOR BUSINESS.

We don't all want to run twenty-six miles in two hours forty-five minutes. Marathon races are not the line of most people, but, all the same, being fit or unfit makes a terrible lot of difference in whatever business race we may be contesting. Sir James Paget, the great physician, declared that he could never make out how it was that while people recognised they could do nothing physically big without some training, they would not recognise that daily life wanted some training for, too.

Some time ago a series of experiments were made by scientific gentlemen on the children in a number of schools. They wanted to find out how it was one child differed from another in getting tired—how one was able to keep bright longer than another. The youngsters were most carefully examined and then set to work. At the end of an hour or so they were examined again. At the end of another hour they were examined once more. I am sorry to say that a large number of those youngsters did not turn out satisfactorily. Then the investigators put their heads together and began to ask them questions so as to find a clue to how it was they were deficient in energy. They found five great reasons—want of proper food, want of proper exercise, want of proper air, want of enough water, and want of enough sleep.

The worker who finds his work such a strain that it takes up all his time and energy, would often find that a little of the thinking applied in the proper direction—to himself—would relieve him of a vast amount of worry in other directions. Baron Hirsch, the millionaire, when he was applied to by a young fellow for some advice as to how to succeed in the world, surprised him by telling him one good thing was to always sleep with one's window open a little. The disappointed seeker of a recipe for how-to-get-rich rapidly, mentioned the advice to a friend.

"He only means it is a good thing to attend to the little things that give one energy in mind and body," said his friend.

It is the quickest way. The man who pedals a bicycle with its works full of grit does a lot of work, but he does not "get there" the faster.

"According to this paper," observed Mr. Goodwin, "a man has lived a year on beer alone."

"Well, that's as it should be," observed Mrs. Goodwin. "Any man who lives on beer ought to be compelled to live alone."

POULTRY.

MANAGEMENT OF PULLETS DURING AUTUMN AND WINTER.

By H. V. Hawkins, Poultry Expert, in Victorian Journal of Agriculture.

Cleaning Pens.—When the cold nights begin to come—about the end of March—it is time to bring the pullets into their winter quarters. They should then begin to show signs of maturity. Prior to penning them, clean up the pens thoroughly, disinfect the sleeping quarters, renew perches, close up all crevices and cracks, see that the floor is level, and cover it with sand and gravel; also place a board under each perch so that the droppings may be easily removed and the floor kept perfectly clean.

Feeding.—The question of feeding is very important. During the spring and summer the pullets will have had green grass, seed and insect life. This being so, suitable substitutes must be provided, adding to, rather than reducing, the quantity of animal food they have been accustomed to get in the shape of insects. If skim milk can be obtained at a reasonable price, or is available on the farm, it will be found excellent food. Very often one can secure green bone and scraps of waste meat from the markets at a reasonably low cost. Any of these, provided they are fresh, may be utilised, as well as kitchen scraps. No one should be guilty of feeding decayed meat to poultry. Good prices for fresh eggs cannot be expected if fowls eat putrified food of any kind. The green food may be supplied in the form of chaffed lucerne, clover, or beets; boiled potatoes may occasionally be added to the morning ration.

Morning.—I am strongly of opinion that the morning meal should consist largely of pollard, 2 parts (by measure); bran, 1 part; with 1lb. at least of animal food (lightly boiled) to 30 pullets daily. A fair amount of green food should be added and mixed well, and the whole should be thoroughly worked up to a crumbly consistency.

Should some of the pullets appear backward in their adult feather production, a teaspoonful of linseed per bird in the mash occasionally will have beneficial effects.

Evening.—Half an hour before roosting time, give a good handful of mixed wheat, short oats, and crushed maize—equal parts. Scatter the grain in dry litter, and make them work, as helps to promote egg production.

There is great benefit in thus feeding, and as eggs are usually worth 2d. each in April and May, it pays to pen in small yards, protected from cold bleak winds and provided with comfortable houses. Well-fed pullets so treated will net at least 6/- profit per bird per annum, and in many cases more.

Shell, Grit, and Water.—Ground oyster shell has no equal for the production of firm egg-shells. Each pullet will annually consume 7lbs. Provide a box with plenty of sharp pieces of grit, such as gravel and broken crockery. The addition of charcoal and crushed burnt bones twice a week will be found beneficial. Keep the water vessel always full; clean out daily and place in a sheltered spot.

Nest Boxes.—Encourage the pullets to lay in secluded corners. Make the nests dark and inviting. Do not allow them to lay in the house. Shun all bad smelling disinfectants, as the eggs, being porous, may easily become tainted; for example, when the nest has been sprinkled with carbolic powder or other similarly strong deodoriser.

SELECTING LAYING STOCK.

By H. V. Hawkins, Poultry Expert, in the Victorian Journal of Agriculture.

There are a great many methods advertised in various pamphlets and papers stating that, if you will practise this or that method of selecting as laid down in the paper, you will be able to determine the drones from the workers. The writer has tried a few of these so-called certainties, and has come to the conclusion the trap nest is the only accurate test. It is by selection and keeping records that advancement is made along this line.

Each hen has her own individuality, i.e., certain hens lay eggs that are in nine cases out of ten hatchable. Some hens lay well, but, although their eggs are usually fertile, they will not hatch whether set under a hen or placed in the best incubator. The chicks develop to a certain size, in many cases being fully formed, but die in the shell. Again, many hens lay eggs that are seldom fertile.

In selecting birds one has several objects. The saying "that the hen that lays is the hen that pays" is often heard. The majority of those engaged in the poultry business consider egg production the best end of the business. It is often the surest. There is not the same amount of risk attached to it. At the same time, if people are foolish enough to believe that Mr. So-and-So can supply eggs from hens, tested by the so-called new system, which have produced 300 eggs per annum they have more faith in the advertiser and the hen than the writer has.

There is no doubt that certain characteristics should be looked for in a good laying hen. She should be low set, and stand on a pair of shanks fairly wide apart. The head should be nice and clean cut with a full bright eye. In other words, hens should show feminine character and not wrinkled and shrunken features. Hens of the latter type should be discarded; in short, masculinity in the hen is a bad sign. A hen with a large capacity for food, i.e., has a large crop (craw), is usually a payable bird to feed. The smaller the sack of food she takes to roost at night the fewer eggs will she produce. Dairymen know that a cow must have plenty of room for food, in order to produce a large milk yield.

The advertised systems serve one purpose, viz., by examining the lay bones the amateur knows which bird is about to lay, or is laying. Should the lay bones be relaxed to the extent of about three fingers (closed) the bird is laying; if they are almost in contact, that is the hen to market, but so much depends on the time of year one wishes to sell table fowls.

Just a Guess.

Anciently man thought more highly of his horse than of his women-kind. But woman, as it chanced, was crafty.

"Why does he esteem his horse beyond his wife?" she asked herself, and resolutely faced the task of finding out.

Her first answer was: "The horse will carry a heavier load."

Her next: "The horse doesn't talk back at him."

But neither of these, somehow, impressed her as being correct.

"Most likely," she declared, at length, "it's in the grooming. Well, I'll just be well groomed myself, and see."

It was a lucky guess, and from that time forward woman's position rose, relatively, until in our day the horse has scarcely a look-in, even at the horse-show.

"It was probably the man who married a rich wife," says one who knows, "who first started the joke as to the difficulty of finding a woman's pocket."

Which is the more difficult to spell—tweedledum or tweedledee?—The former, because the latter is spelt with more "e's."

AFTER TWENTY YEARS

"Aye, 'tis changed! 'tis changed! I should hardly have known the old place, and I suppose the people have changed, too. Ah! twenty years—twenty years in that soul-wringing prison, and then to come back to—to what?"

The grey-bearded figure stood in the roadway and looked about him. A tall man despite his stooping shoulders, his face furrowed and lined with care, yet there hung about him an indescribable air of strength and power.

"Fancy Three-Nugget Jack, the man who has held a mob at bay with the muzzle of his revolver, shivering with fear because he happens to be treading the old haunts of his boyhood days! But I—I'm afraid, somehow, I can't go on until I have spoken to someone and got a little information."

He stopped before a gaily-illuminated way-side inn, and gazed at the swinging sign.

"The Jolly Gardeners, eh? It used to be a little tumble-down pub with an oil lamp; now it's a palace of light. Anyway, I may as well go in."

He pushed open the swinging door and entered, expecting to see the rubicund face of the old landlord whom he had known years ago; but with the whirligig of time the old face had disappeared, and in its place a gorgeously-attired barmaid condescended to minister to the wants of the customers.

When the stranger entered the barmaid was busily engaged in conversation with a loosely-built, pimply-faced youth, who stared at the newcomer with undisguised contempt and annoyance at being thus interrupted.

The old man, however, was in no way abashed, and returned the scrutiny with unflinching eyes, until the other came to the conclusion that perhaps it would be more conducive to his general health if he adopted a more conciliatory attitude.

"Beastly cold night; join me in a drink?" he asked, in an affected drawl.

"Well, thank you, I don't mind if I do," answered the stranger.

"Don't remember seein' yer features before; yer don't live hereabouts, eh?"

"No; it is many years since I set foot in this village—many years; and I find the place wonderfully changed."

"Changed! Love me, but there ain't no change in this beastly dead-an'-alive hole. What's changed, I'd like ter know?"

"Oh, the houses, the shops and—and the faces. The old landmarks have gone, and with them the old associations."

"Can't say as I sees it meself. Same old things day after day, week after week. I'd give somethin' ter see a bit o' change."

"You live about here, then?"

"Yes, worse luck."

"Ah! And—and perhaps you could tell me about some of the old inhabitants—people that I knew twenty years ago."

"Well, there ain't many people as I don't know in this 'ere district, an' I flatters meself that there ain't many people as don't know Fred Vance."

"Ah! Your name is Vance, eh? I used to know a man named 'Flowery' Vance; kept a small greengrocer's shop in the High-street."

"My father was a florist," returned Mr. Vance, haughtily.

"Ah! I suppose that's the new name they have for 'taters and greens. Then there were some people named—er—Frost."

"Frost! What do you know of the Frosts, eh? Why do yer want ter know anythin' of ther Frosts? Who are yer, anyway? An' why do yer come in 'ere, a perfect stranger, an' get inter conversation with me about them?"

"Steady, young fellow, steady; there's no need for temper and high words. I'm sorry I happen to have touched upon what seems to be a sore point."

"Sore point! I should think it is a sore point. Now, look 'ere, old sport, I'll put it 'ter you. Supposin' you'd been courtin' a girl off and on for the best part of a year, makin' 'er 'andsome presents o' flowers an' things outer yer own shop, callin' at 'er 'ouse two or three times a week, 'ceptin', o' course, when yer 'ad somethin' better on, an' generally, in a manner o' speakin', lookin' on ther girl as yer own privit property; supposin', I says, that after all this, another feller steps in an', takin' the words outer yer own mouth, asks 'er to be 'is wife, 'an she accepts 'im."

"Ah I can understand your feelings on the subject. I should be annoyed myself, very much annoyed; but surely Mrs. Frost is not thinking of marrying again?"

"Mrs. Frost, me hat! It's the daughter, Marjory, I'm talkin' about."

"Marjory! But Marjory is a little child."

"Look, 'ere, old sport, who are yer gettin' at? She may 'ave been a child when you knew 'er, but just now she's the most bewitching an' beautiful girl that ever a feller wanted ter kiss."

"Of course; of course; she must be a grown woman now; but whenever I have thought of Marjory Frost I have always pictured her as a little toddling, blue-eyed child, with a tumbling mass of golden curls and a pair of dimpling cheeks."

"Well, ther blue eyes, an' ther curls, an' ther dimples is there now, an' they are all goin' ter be wasted, absorlutely chucked away, so ter speak, on a clodhoppin' feller like Jimmy Blount. I tells yer it makes me fair savage when I thinks about it."

"James Blount!"

"Yes, Jimmy Blount, a stuck-up feller what thinks because 'e's got a few acres o' tomato houses, an' a motor-waggon ter carry 'is stuff ter Covin' Gardin, that 'e's solved every agricultooral difficulty, an' is on 'is way to make a fortune."

"James Blount, eh? Let me see, he must have been a little boy of about three when his father disappeared."

"His father disappeared? Why, where did 'e go to? Look 'ere, old sport, drink up an' 'ave another; me an' you is goin' ter be pals. Jim Blount's father disappeared, did 'e? Now, what did 'e do-that for?"

"Ah! Who can tell?"

"Who, indeed? Now, what I allus says is that when a feller disappears there's some reason for it. 'E's either done something shady an' gone away ter escape ther conserquences, or else 'e's clapped inter gaol an' serves 'is sentence under a false name."

"Ah!"

The old man shook his head and pondered, as much as to say that there was quite possibly something in the suggestion.

"An' what I maintains is that them as is livin' amongst us, knowin' all ther time that their fathers 'as done somethin' shady, it's ther dooty of everyone ter unmask 'em an' show up their hypocrisy, especially them fellers as sneaks another chap's gal. Why, if Mrs. Frost knew anythin' against Jim Blount she'd chuck 'im at once."

"Would she now? And this Mrs. Frost, is she prosperous?"

"Can't make ther family out at all. Neither Mrs. Frost nor Marjory does anythin' for a livin', an' up to a few months ago they lived in a little cottage; then all on a sudden they launches out, takes ther nicest 'ouse in ther district, an' sets up a carriage an' a couple o' servants, an' this 'ere Jimmy Blount is goin' ter marry inter hopulence like that."

"But I thought you said Blount was in the way of making a fortune?"

"So I did; but 'e ain't got much capital, an' 'e's 'ampered; an' when a man's 'ampered for money, 'e sometimes can't 'amper 'is stuff for the markit, see!"

Fred Vance smiled inanely while the old man signified his appreciation of this sorry wit, and then, draining his glass, returned to the subject.

"Now, what I was sayin' was this—that if Jimmy Blount 'as got anythin' ter conceal about 'is father it's ther dooty of any decent feller ter show 'im up afore 'e entraps a poor innercent girl inter marryin' 'im. What's your opinion, old sport?"

"I have no doubt you'd find many to agree with you."

"Course I would. By the way, what's your name?"

"Name! It's such a long time since I heard it that I almost forget; but it doesn't matter; call me 'Three-Nugget Jack!'"

"Three-Nugget Jack! Ha! ha! that's good! You don't look as if you'd got many nuggets about you now, do yer? But let me see; Jimmy Blount's father was named Jack, wasn't 'e?"

"Was he? Ah! perhaps it was Jack."

Fred Vance at this admission screwed up one eye and tapped the off-side of his nose with his forefinger in a manner that was intended to convey the fact that there was not to be the slightest doubt about his personal acumen and perspicacity.

"You're a wily old bird, but yer can't come it over Fred Vance. I'm awake, I am—wide awake, old sport. I can put two an' two together an' make 'em five. What?"

The old man having signified his admiration of Mr. Vance's arithmetical powers, that volatile youth continued the conversation.

"Now, look 'ere, me Mr. Three-Nugget Jack, or whatever yer likes ter call yerself, me an' you is goin' ter do a little business."

"Ah! And what might the nature of it be?"

"Drink up, old sport, an' let's get outside. Walls 'as ears, as ther poet somethin' says."

Vance led the way outside, and for some considerable distance they walked up the road in comparative silence until they came to a large building, where they both stopped.

"We shall not be seen or heard here," said Vance, as he pushed his companion into the shadow of the high wall."

"What building is this? It seems new to me."

"It's the work'ouse."

"Ah! there are worse places than workhouses."

"Prisons!" sneered Vance.

"Aye, prisons."

"You speak feelingly, old sport."

"Perhaps. I have been a prisoner myself for nearly twenty years."

"Oh, Fred Vance can catch on to a thing as quick as most men. Now look 'ere, me old bird; do you want ter earn a quid or two? It doesn't appear ter me as if yer was weighted down with gold."

"What is your proposition?"

"'Elp me ter smash Jimmy Blount's game with Marjory Frost, an' I'll give yer a fiver."

"Ah! And how am I to do that?"

"Easy as winkin'. Mrs. Frost would not let 'er daughter marry ther son of a convict."

"Well?"

Vance thrust his face forward and whispered into the old man's ear:

"You are Jack Blount, who disappeared twenty years ago, and are now a convict out on ticket-o'-leave."

The old man uttered a cry of rage, and raised his fist, but Vance drew back quickly.

"Only supposin', mind yer, only supposin'. I didn't mean as it was true; don't take it like that, old sport. I didn't mean it."

"What do you want me to do?"

"Ah, that's better. Now, all you've got ter do is ter go ter Jimmy Blount an' say as you're 'is father an' a convict, an' you've come 'ome ter live with 'im. He'll be pretty cut up an' tell yer all about 'is love an' blighted 'opes with Marjory; an' then you does ther penitent an' says as 'ow rather than wreck 'is 'appiness you'll wander forth inter ther cold world an' never trouble 'im no more. D'ye twig, old sport?"

"And what next?"

"There ain't no next for you; you just collects ther fiver I'll give yer an' does ther wanderin' business. Is it a deal?"

The old man thought deeply for a few minutes, and then there came a sound of footsteps approaching along the road.

"Will yer do it? Quick!" cried Vance. "It's Jimmy Blount himself."

The man raised his head with a startled gesture.

"Yes, I'll do it," he muttered hoarsely.

Jimmy Blount came swinging along the road, walking with the firm tread of a man of action.

"Halloa, Blount!"

"Ah! That you, Vance?"

"Yes. Come here; I've got some news for yer. I found this surprise-packet on ther road, an' I thought as 'ow yer'd like ter be introdooced."

"Ah! Who is he?"

"Well, 'e's neither more nor less than yer own father, what disappeared more'n twenty years ago."

"What?"

Young Blount staggered back and stared wildly at the old man.

"You—you are my father!"

"I have come home to be a father to you," answered the old man, slowly.

"But explain—explain."

"Oh, I'll do that," answered Vance, with a malicious laugh. "'E's been in gaol for the larst twenty years."

"Is—is this true?"

"I have certainly been a prisoner for the time he states, but let us get away from here and go where we can talk quietly—somewhere away from this—this man."

"Come with me; my house is near, and there is much to explain, much to prove."

He gripped the old man by the arm, and led him away, leaving Fred Vance in the road staring after them.

* * * * *

Mrs. Frost and Marjory were very much surprised on the following morning when they received an intimation, almost immediately after breakfast, that Mr. Fred Vance was awaiting them in the drawing-room.

"This is a very early visit, Mr. Vance; I hope there is nothing wrong."

"It is on'y a matter of very grave importance, Mrs. Frost, that would indooce me to intrude upon yer at so early a hour. I knows me manners better nor that, I 'ope."

"Why, what has happened? You alarm me."

"An' I'm afraid I shall alarm you considerably more afore I've finished; an' ther worst of it is, what I have to say will bring pain an' unhappiness to you, Miss Marjory."

"To me! It's—it's not James?"

"I am very sorry to say, Miss Marjory that it is James. A very terrible thing 'as 'appened."

"Well, out with it, man. Do not keep us waiting in suspense. What is it?"

"Jimmy Blount's father has come back."

"Jack Blount come back! Why, what nonsense is this? He was lost at sea with all hands twenty years ago."

"Ah! was 'e? When a man's relatives wish ter bury 'is memory it is easy ter say that 'e was drownded at sea."

"Oh, speak out, man, and let us know the worst. What are you hinting at?"

"I am sorry ter 'ave ter tell yer that Jimmy Blount's father 'as just returned after serving twenty years' penal servitood."

"Impossible! I won't believe it."

"And even if it is true," put in Marjory, "it will make no difference to me. James cannot be expected to suffer because his father, whom he hardly knew, committed a crime."

"Your sentiments, Miss Marjory, do yer credit," answered Vance; "but even you, Mrs. Frost, will 'ardly consent ter yer daughter spendin' the rest of 'er life with an ex-convict for a father-in-law."

"I don't know whether to believe your story or not yet, Mr. Vance; and I must say that up to the present moment you speak more with the venom of a rejected suitor than a man who is trying to do us a kindness. I thank you for coming, but we will say nothing more until we have heard from Mr. Blount. If it is as you say, I have such faith in his honesty and integrity that I am certain he will lose no time in placing us in possession of the true facts."

"Or shift 'is father off, an' pay 'im ter keep away. I know Jim Blount."

"And so do we, and, if I mistake not, here is one of his men now."

Mrs. Frost hurried from the room, and returned almost immediately with a note, which she opened and read aloud:—

"Dear Mrs. Frost,—A most extraordinary thing has happened. Can you and Marjory come over at once? —James."

"Ah! just what I thought. He intends ter brazen it out. I wonder what tale they 'ave made up between 'em."

"I don't care what it is, I shall always believe in James," answered Marjory; "and if your curiosity is consuming you, perhaps you had better come with us."

In a few minutes they were all ready and proceeded to Blount's house, where they found Jimmy waiting for them. The two ladies greeted him affectionately, and it was a question whom of the two exhibited the most warmth.

"What does it all mean, James? Is it—is it true that——"

"Yes, it is quite true that I have found a father; but come in and hear all the news. Ah! Vance, I am glad that you have come along too; I thought you would not be very far away."

"I felt it my dooty to come with these dear ladies to see that they are not imposed upon."

"Your feelings do you credit, I am sure. Now, Mrs. Frost, and you too, Marjory, you must be prepared for a great surprise."

"A fine surprise," sneered Vance, "to exhibit a convict father—that is, if yer intends ter perdooce 'im."

Jim Blount left the room and returned in a few minutes leading Three-Nugget Jack by the arm.

Mrs. Frost gazed at him intently for an instant, and then, with a wild cry, threw herself into the old man's arms.

"Jack! Jack! My own Jack, come back at last!"

"My wife!"

That was all they said for some minutes, and with tears in his eyes Jim Blount turned away to the window.

"At last—at last, my wife, I am able to come back to you. And is this Marjory, the little blue-eyed toddler I remember so well? Ah, my dear girl, what a slice out of my life! What have I not missed in not seeing you grow up into the bonny girl you are!"

"My dear father!"

"But what's all this 'ere? I don't understand all this. Last night yer told me yer were a released convict, an' admitted as yer were Jim Blount's father, an' 'ere yer are a-'uggin' an' kissin' Mrs. Frost an' callin' 'er wife!"

"Young man," answered Mr. Frost, "there are many things in this world that your limited intellect fails to comprehend. I did not say that I was a released convict; I merely said that I had been a prisoner for twenty years, and so I have—a prisoner in ice-bound wildernesses; a prisoner in the pitiless fastnesses of the wild Klondike, toiling, day by day, in the hope of finding the fortune I set out to seek some twenty years ago, seeing the summer come and the winter go year in and year out, and getting no nearer my goal than when I first started. Of the agony I endured in the knowledge that I was growing an old man, and that my dear wife and child were awaiting my return, I will say nothing; but I toiled on, buoyed up by hope, and then at last fortune came. I struck the gold I had been seeking, and now at last I am able to return to my old home a rich man."

"That's all very well; but yer certainly said last night that yer were Jim Blount's father."

"No; you are again in error, young man. I said I had come back to be a father to Jim Blount, and so I am—a father-in-law. Jim, my lad, give me your hand, and you, too, Marjory. Take her, my boy, and may you both go through life steadfast and true to each other, and blessed with that all-powerful and overmastering love that can make itself manifest even after an absence of twenty years."

Out of Curiosity.

"Come in!"

The door opened to admit an individual of benign aspect, who at once began:

"You advertised that you had found a purse, did you not?"

"I did."

"You said it contained a sum of money?"

"Yes."

"In fact, a very large sum of money?"

"That's so."

"You mentioned, too, that the owner could have the same by naming the sum found and describing the purse?"

"Yes; go on."

"That is all I wanted to ask."

"But you will have to give a description of the purse before you can claim it."

"I haven't lost any purse."

"You haven't?"

"No."

"Then why on earth have you called?"

"Oh! merely to see what a man looks like who will find a very large sum of money, and then advertise the fact in the daily newspapers instead of having a good time with the spoils. Good morning, sir!"

Business is Business.

A story is told of a well-known yacht-owner whose vessel was one night anchored near a rocky and dangerous shore. Suddenly, just before dinner, a stiff inshore wind sprang up and developed into a gale. The anchor slipped and another was dropped. The yacht seemed in imminent danger of drifting upon the rocks, but at last the second anchor gripped, and the danger was over. In the silence that followed there came to the yacht-owner's ears the click-click-clack-click-clack of a busily-manipulated spoon against a bowl. He listened for a moment and then went below. The cook was preparing salad dressing.

"Why, Sam!" he exclaimed in astonishment, "didn't you know that we nearly went ashore?"

"Oh, yes, sir—yes, sir!" came the undisturbed reply. "I thought she was going on the rocks."

"Well, in a case like that, don't you ever go up on deck? It was a close shave for our lives!"

"Well, you see, it's like this," rejoined the cook. "You can't leave mayonnaise a minute!"

Better Late Than Errors.

The other morning an invoice clerk turned up at his office even later than usual. His employer, tired of waiting for him, had himself gone about the work. The enraged merchant laid his pen aside very deliberately.

"Mr. Jones," he said sternly, "this will not do!"

"No, sir," replied Jones, drawing off his coat, as he glanced over his employer's shoulder, "it will not. You have made those invoices out to the wrong people. Far better to have waited till I came!"

Gentleman (indignantly): You praised your kitchen coal to the skies, and said it was most economical. Why, it won't burn at all!

Coal Dealer (coolly): Well, what could you have more economical than that?

FROM VARIOUS SOURCES

A fashionable and charming young lady recently had a painful experience. She was upstairs, and had just turned out her light when she heard a caller ask for her. She made a dive for her powder-puff in the dark, and dusted her face with the powder. Instead, however, of putting the "puff" into the powder-box, she put it into the powdered charcoal used as tooth-powder, and dusted it freely over her face. Then she went to the parlor and found a distinguished stranger, on whom she was anxious to make an impression. He appeared rather nonplussed at her looks, but being a man of the world, which means a man wise enough not to tell a woman her faults, he said nothing. She sat and chatted gracefully, and had a delightful hour. As soon as he had gone she looked into the mirror, as every girl does when her beau leaves. She gave one scream and went off into hysterics, as her mistake in the dark had given her the make-up of an amateur Christy minstrel.

He was a Yarra Bank orator of a kind, a short, stout, dark man, whose clothing had patches of shiny black where the good familiar dirt was polished in, and whose trousers refused to meet at the waist. He was addressing a small knot of familiar spirits. "I'm down on the police," he said. "They're the hinstruments of the plutocracy, that's what they are, and I can't comprehend how it is a henlightened people puts up with 'em fer a week. Here's a bloomin' people boastin' iv bein' self-governed, an' what's happenin' all the time? Why, they're bein' governed be the police. They ain't even given free use iv their own streets, but allows themselves t' be hustled from one end iv the town to the other be the blessed cops. They makes nice public gardens up there, and plants fine lawns, and then puts policemen in to prevent them usin' 'em. Free! It makes me blood boil when I'm in the city there a-leanin' agin a post, and along comes a bobby an' gives me the shove. Thinks I, 'Is this what I pays for police for?' We've done with Czars, and tyrants, and autocrats, and we've put policemen in their place. See that lump on my 'ead? 'Ow d'yeh think I got it—from a burglar or a thief? Not much. That's where a policeman hit me. I tell yeh, a man would be quite safe on Melbin streets if it wasn't for the police. Down with 'em, I say. Who wants 'em? Away with 'em!" Here a man of a somewhat similar stamp broke through the ring. "Hello!" he cried, "now I've got you. You're the bloke what pinched the bottle of beer out of my lunch up at the wharf. Take that!" Next moment the orator was down on his back with his assailant on top, and the man underneath, who had so much to say against the police, was yelling with all the force of his lungs: "Police! Police!"

There was wild excitement in one of Melbourne's busy streets one night recently. Edgar Allan Poe wrote a story of an escaped monkey. The present history is first cousin to it. There is in the possession of a practical joker a remarkably fine gorilla skin. A friend of his rushed into the street suddenly the other evening very late, and informed a motor-man and some cabbies that a huge monkey had escaped, to look out for it. The man in the motor, with a cynical smile, observed that if he saw it a hot reception would be its lot, and that people ought to be locked up for keeping such pets. Next minute the animal dashed into the street, and pandemonium at once prevailed. The first to howl and run from it was the motor-man; then the cabmen ran from it, leaving vehicles to their fate, the horses being in terror at the ugly, dancing, chattering apparition. A policeman hid himself somewhere, and the street was utterly deserted. Then, as a crowd hove in sight, the monkey-man's friend, about half his size, took him gently by the paw, and led him indoors like a lamb. Instantly he skipped off, and when several policemen and informers gained admittance, of course nothing was to be seen. The disgusted men in blue thereupon accused those who had complained of seeing things. The joke has since been given away, but the actors in it don't care about talking of it.

A Scotsman went to a race meeting, and boldly staked a sovereign. The horse he backed proved a winner, and he went to the "bookie" to claim his winnings. The sporting man begrudgingly handed him seven sovereigns. The Scot looked at each one very carefully before placing it in his pocket. "Weel," said the "bookie" with a snarl, "are you afraid they're bad?" "Oh, no," said the Scotsman; "but I was just lookin' to mak' sure the bad 'un I gie'd ye wisna amang them."

He was very tall, probably 6ft. 7in., and extremely slim, and he sat in the bar eating a German sausage sandwich and drinking gingerale. His soft drink provoked an outburst of derision. "Why don't yeh drink beer?" snorted Rocky Hogan. "I hate a bloke what don't show proper respect for beer." Slim Jim shook his head. "No," he said, "I'm off it. I've took the pledge."

"Garn! Whaffor?" asked Hogan.

"Well," explained the tall, willowy drinker, "I used to take more'n was good for me, and that's dangerous for a man o' my build. Last time I got drunk I got infernal drunk, and when tryin' to get home I fell into a gutter by the roadside. When I woke up, I found myself buried in a hole up to my knees, and some o' them telegraph repairers had a ladder agin me, and was fixing insulators on my arms. They'd found me lyin' by the road, where repairs was going on, and had took me for a pole. I ain't touched beer since."

One well-known Melbourne publican has achieved a reputation for nearness which sometimes costs him a good customer. Last Christmas his wife presented a "regular," worth ten pounds a week to the house, with a bottle of brandy as a season's greeting. And on New Year's Day the week following the landlord himself, with a great air of reckless generosity, confided to him that he was about to make him a present of a bottle of whisky, and directed the barmaid to wrap one up. During this process the customer remarked: "This is very good of you, Paddy, for last week the missus gave me a bottle of brandy for a Christmas-box!" "Phwat!" yelled the publican. "Here," he cried to the barmaid, "put that bottle up on the shelf again!" He saved his bottle of whisky, but he lost his customer. Another publican of Irish name, but Scottish descent, has similar short-sighted characteristics. Quite recently he has established the toll telephone system in the hotel, and one of the first to fall a victim was a newly-made Minister of the Crown, who regularly stayed at the house. "That will be a penny, please!" said the barmaid. But the Minister took the remark as a joke, until he came a second time, and the barmaid said, "That's tuppence now, Mr. ——." "What!" exclaimed the big man. "Are you serious?" "Yes," she explained, "that is my instruction. I'm to charge a penny every time the telephone is used." Without another word the Minister went upstairs, packed his Gladstone, and was departing when he encountered a colleague. "Hello, ——! where are you off to?" "Oh," said the exasperated telephone victim, "I've been staying in this house for fifteen years, and now they want to charge me a penny every time I use the telephone." "Is that so?" exclaimed the other, also a good customer. "Just wait a minute till I get my bag, and I'll go with you!" And thus the second "penny wise and pound foolish" publican fell in.

THE SLEEPING PARTNER.

A Neglectful Shopman.

"Black neckties, if you please."

Drummond, the salesman, stared across the counter at the speaker as if his thoughts were in Egypt.

"What is it?" he said at last.

"Black neckties. Silk."

Drummond threw a box down. The customer opened it. "These are red—and not silk." he said quickly.

"Nobody wears black silk now," Drummond said, yawning and looking indifferently at the plain old man before him. Then he took up the box and threw it back into its place.

"Have you none of the kind I want?" asked the old man.

"No; that kind of goods went out years ago. We don't keep 'em," said the salesman insolently.

"There are plenty of black silk ties," said Sanders, the man at the next counter, in an undertone.

"I know; but what's the good of bothering with an old back number like that? Methodist preacher, I'll bet five to one. But I was telling you about my cousins, the Harts. The three brothers all left the village, and came up to town. One is now a railway boss, one a banker, and the third a sugar man—all of them millionaires."

"A lucky family! How was that?"

"They all had capital to start with. The man with capital wins out every time."

"Perhaps you have neckties—black silk?" the old man said to Sanders. He had been lingering near the counter.

"I think there are some, sir," said Sanders, taking down some boxes. He opened one after another, but there were no ties of the kind the old man wanted.

Drummond, with a half-amused stare at the persistent customer, turned away to gossip and giggle with a sales-girl. Sanders anxiously took down box after box.

"I am afraid I am giving you a great deal of trouble," said the old man kindly.

"That's what I'm here for," said the salesman pleasantly. "I'm sure I shall find them."

The box was found at last, and a necktie of the right width was chosen, wrapped, and handed to the troublesome customer with a smile.

The next morning Sanders received a printed slip, notifying him of his promotion in the shop. Drummond also received a slip, but it informed him that after the end of the next week his services would be required no longer by Colton and Company. Underneath the printed form were written the words—"Civility and efficiency are capital as well as money. You will fail, because you have neither."

"Who was that old bore?" demanded Drummond, in a fury.

"It was John Colton, the sleeping partner of the firm," said one of the men.

THE IDEAL WOMAN.

The ideal woman retains youth with all its inspirations, buoyancy, and hope.

She believes in the goodness of humanity, and she has great abundance of forgiveness for wrong.

She has learned the dignity of silence and the value of expressions of goodwill and sympathy.

She is a friend to her friends and a silent witness to the failings of her enemies.

She finds the world beautiful; she is not a whiner; she is not an egotist.

She brings loveliness and goodness to herself by recognising virtues in others. If there was ever a time when women need character it is now. They need the self-governed mind to protect themselves and to provide for themselves a living.

For a silly young woman there is but one way of maintenance, and that is matrimony. For the woman who is well equipped mentally there is every ambition, and she is able to earn her own living until such time as the right man, the honorable man, appears.

The more paths that are open to woman the less chances of taking wrong ones through lack of knowledge there will be.

"And now I see with eyes serene
The very pulse of the machine,
A being breathing thoughtful breath,
A traveller between life and death.
The reason firm, the temperate will,
Endurance, foresight, strength, and skill;
A perfect woman, nobly planned,
To warn, to comfort, and command,
And yet a spirit still and bright,
With something of angelic light."

A SIMPLE BEAUTIFIER.

The simplest remedies are often the best, and while a great deal of money is spent on toilet preparations, such simple, cheap things as fresh milk and lemon-juice will keep an ordinarily healthy complexion as clear and bright as many a costly cream. A good treatment, in fact, consists of pouring some fresh milk into an egg-cup, squeezing into this some lemon-juice, and moistening the face with the mixture through the medium of a piece of cambric, clean white flannel, or a small sponge. The milk will soften the skin, and the lemon-juice give it just the tonic effect required. The chief aim in beauty complexion treatments should be to keep the skin soft. Health will take care of the color. White flannel is one of the nicest mediums for applying lotions to the face.

"Elizabeth, has that man any expectations?"

"Yes, mamma."

"What do they consist of?"

"Me."

The characters of great men are the dowry of a nation.

Office Boy: The editor is much obliged to you for allowing him to see your drawings, but much regrets he is unable to use them.

Fair Artist (eagerly): Did he say that?

Office Boy (truthfully): Well, not exactly. He just said, "Take 'em away, Joe; they make me ill!"

"Your husband," said Gaddie, "appears to be a man of great self-control."

"Yes," replied Mrs. Peckham, "he is."

"I suppose," Gaddie went on, "he inherited that quality from his father, the judge?"

"No," she replied significantly, "it's a virtue he has acquired since his marriage."

ROMANTIC LIFE STORY OF MR. HARRY BARNATO.

FROM JUGGLER TO MILLIONAIRE

There died two or three months ago in Upper Hamilton-terrace, London, a man who began life as a juggler. He ended in a multi-millionaire. His name was Harry Barnato. His savings alone amounted to several hundreds of thousands of pounds every year.

He was an elder brother of the late Mr. Barney Barnato, and, with Mr. Jack and Mr. Solly Joel, was at the head of the famous South African firm of Barnato Brothers. He was a permanent director in Johannesburg of the Barnato Consolidated Investment Company Limited.

Mr. Barnato was a man of simple tastes, and, to a great extent, lived a frugal life, his one great luxury being cigars, which he smoked incessantly. His daily routine was to go to the offices of the Diamond Syndicate at Audrey House, Ely-place, wearing his familiar black frock-coat and silk hat, and large scarf, with a pearl or diamond pin.

When at his office he would smoke cigars freely, and he was very fond of the brand which was kept there for the use of the Amsterdam buyers and brokers who are repeatedly calling. After his luncheon, also taken in the office, he would retire to his room with his silk hat still on his head, and sleep in his chair for an hour or two.

One of his proudest possessions was a cheque for over £5,000,000 bearing the signature of his brother, which he had in a frame. He was fond of explaining that this was the last link in the chain of the negotiations for the amalgamation of De Beers with the Kimberley Company. Sitting in his chair with his hat tilted, its curled brim, his large cravat, and his heavy moustache, he was the retired showman to the life. An impresario jewelled in every joint.

He had great respect for the business acumen possessed by his dead brother, and was never tired of telling stories of his cleverness.

All sorts of curious stories are told concerning Mr. Barnato's thrift, but most of them are apocryphal. It may be doubted, however, in recent years he ever spent as much in a year as he was worth a month.

Some of the tales may be true. One is that he had a difference with a tailor over 1/6 for the price of a pair of trousers. The estimate was 16/6. Something or other extra was alleged to have been done, and the bill came in for 18/. As a matter of principle he would not pay, and despite repeated calls and no complaints about a misfit, the tailor eventually had to take the lesser amount, but nevertheless kept his customer.

It was the same, so it is said, about his motor-car. This remained idle for a considerable time because a chauffeur at the price Mr. Barnato meant to pay was not to be found in London. It was not that he wished to risk an incompetent man or not pay a living wage, simply he knew someone else with a good car who paid a certain price, and he did not see why he should spoil the market.

At a certain hostelry not far from Ely-place Mr. Barnato was known, and would frequently accept the eagerly proffered hospitality of young fellows who had as much a year as he had an hour. It was only an eccentricity, but sometimes he forgot to return little entertainments. When he did take a man out to dinner nothing was too good to be put on the board.

Frequently the former juggler would walk about with one or two cheques in his pocket for £60,000 or £70,000 keeping these by him a week at a time, and pulling them out, not ostentatiously, but in the search for a pencil or some other trifling article. The sum was a monthly dividend, that was all!

On one occasion a young man who was visiting him said: "Even with all my expectations, and knowing you would get it back, you wouldn't lend me £500 if I asked you." "Why should I?" was the bland response. "You'd only spend it." "What else should I do with it?" was the retort. "What should I want it for if I did not want it to spend?" "There you are! I told you so," said Barnato, looking round the room as if he were taking a call after one of his acts.

He was quite an authority and excellent critic on what was going on at the music-halls, where he was often seen at night—never in evening dress—and he talked as one who knew the business. In the course of conversations, as he puffed away at the inevitable cigar, he would tell some excellent stories of early days in South Africa, and always got round to recitals showing the wonderful genius of his dead brother "Barney." It was the ever-present dominating influence of the younger brother leading the elder which perhaps made the late Harry Barnato little known to the ordinary man in the street; but one only had to be in his society for half an hour to show that the man had fought the grim battle of life. Although Barney Barnato was the Napoleon who built up the enormous fortunes of the house, it must always be recollected that Harry Barnato was the first to emigrate, and sent for his brother after he had felt his way in the new country. He was therefore the pioneer of the family.

He was known to be extravagant, occasionally. Early in 1906 he gave a freak dinner at the New Gaiety Restaurant in celebration of the end of the Russo-Japanese War, at which the guests, 13 in number, were all millionaire diamond merchants.

In the centre of the table was a large tank in which floated model Japanese warships overlooked by a miniature Port Arthur. When the guests entered the room it was in semi-darkness, and at the moment of their entry fireworks blazed out from the warships and the forts.

The principal dish was a lamb which had been roasted whole, and was brought into the room on the back of a small black pony. The pony walked round the room, while each guest selected a portion of the lamb to his taste.

Mr. Barnato was a prominent patron of the English Turf, though he did not race on the extensive scale of his kinsmen, Mr. Sol Joel and Mr. J. B. Joel.

One curious trait of his character was that, despite being quite parsimonious on occasions in minor matters he would never grumble at his "settling." He would get his account and cheerfully write a cheque, saying, "Another losing week; it cannot be helped," and would have another bet. He never complained of bad luck, not even when he paid a very big price for a colt some years ago, and the animal proved not to be worth as many sixpences as he had paid guineas for him.

Where to Tell It.

"I'll tell you a tale that is positively hair-raising in——"

"For Jupiter's sake tell it to Gipson—he's bald-headed."

The characteristics that make a man eminent in one class ruin him in another. If you are a clerk, take care not to behave like a duke.

"I intend to marry your daughter, sir," said a young man to an old one.

"Well, don't come to me for sympathy," replied the father—"I have troubles enough!"

Courage consists not in blindly overlooking danger, but in seeing it and conquering it.

When some men discharge an obligation you can hear the report for miles round.

AIMS AND OBJECTS OF NATURE STUDY.

By John Brittain, Professor of Nature Study, Toronto, Canada.

Nature study is an attempt to bring young people into intelligent and harmonious relations with their natural surroundings. The subject matter of nature study is the same as that of natural science, but its spirit and aim are different, though not antagonistic. It seeks knowledge not for its own sake, but for the sake of boys and girls as individuals, and as the home-makers and citizens of the next generation.

The natural world is not merely a storehouse of food and of silver and gold; it is an appeal of the deity to our intellects and emotions. It is replete not only with wonder and mystery, but with beauty and love.

The natural environment has been, throughout the ages, one of the chief agencies employed by the Creator in the unconscious evolutions of the race. It is the part of man to make it an efficient means of conscious development. If school education is ever to become a preparation for life, for the simpler, saner, sweeter life for which so many are longing, and for which so many are incapable of even longing, our educational leaders must allow some time and some effort to the training of the children to observe accurately and interpret wisely those forms and phases of nature which have the most intimate relations to their health, happiness, and insight. Through ignorance of sanitary conditions, and lack of sanitary habits, thousands of our people, young and old, are falling an easy prey to preventable disease. Great numbers are crowding into the cities from the rural districts, preferring life in a dingy tenement with its filthy and forbidding surroundings, to a cosy cottage in the country, with its shade trees and lawn and a well-kept garden and orchard. The birds return every spring to the country fields and groves, and the city parks, only to "waste their sweetness on the desert air," for there are few ears which hear them. Yet the songs of the birds are truly divine, as the songs of the angels, and might soften many a sorrow had our hearts been tuned in youth to respond to their sweet influence.

The way to better things lies plainly in improving the education of the young; partly by a change of methods—partly by a change of emphasis. Our college department of nature study hopes to be of some service to teachers who are beginning to see the possibilities of nature study and its place in the education of the young. We want to tell them to interest their pupils and to guide them in their studies. From time to time we will give an outline lesson on some suitable topic, hoping that many teachers will modify it and adapt it for use in their classes. We invite teachers to send us from time to time an account of their experience in teaching the lessons, with special reference to their effect on the children, and any successful modification or additions which may have been introduced by the teachers will be acknowledged, and when it seems advisable, will be published for the benefit of other teachers. Answers to questions for pupils must be written and signed by the pupils themselves, and in order to ensure publication, must be countersigned by the teacher as a guarantee that the answer was worked out as well as written by the pupil whose signature is attached. Teachers are requested to send only the best answers, and that as a reward for good work. These answers when satisfactory will be published over the pupil's name.

At this season of the year, when the seeds have ripened and are being gathered in by the farmer and gardener a lesson on "The little Plant in a Seed" will be timely and fitting for either city or country schools. The idea that every seed contains a small and slightly-developed plant will be new to many children, and vague to all—even the older ones—who have not investigated it for themselves. Do not begin the lesson by telling the children that every seed contains a small plant, but let them examine several large seeds, and find the body within, which, upon careful consideration, they will conclude must be a small plant. The idea will gradually take form and give them evident pleasure. Encourage and require the children to use their reason at every step as well as their eyes.

Perhaps the best seeds to begin with are beans. The beans should be soaked until the coat is easily cut through with the thumb-nail, and removed without injury to the rest of the seed. When the coat has been taken off it will be found that the body inside is made up of parts which differ in size and form, but which are all connected together. At one side will be seen a little slender organ bent up against the edges of two larger fleshy pieces which most regard as the two halves of the bean—quite an incorrect conception. These two fleshy parts separate easily at one end, but are fast to something at the other. Pull one of them off and you can find a minute scar on the side of the slender organ which we noticed before breaking the other thick piece off, and you will see by the scar that it was attached to the same thing as the other thick piece, but on the opposite side of it. You will now observe two thin pieces close above the scars folded together so that the one part encloses the other. The pupils will see that these two pieces closely resemble leaves, and that if they had been green they would at once have pronounced them to be a pair of leaves. As leaves grow upon stems or shoots, this slender rounded thing upon which these two leaves grow must be a short stem; but what are the two pieces? They are so fleshy that it is hard to think of them as leaves. Since, however, they were attached to the same stem just below the two thin leaves, they must also be a pair of leaves. We have found them in the seed of the bean, a body which has a stem and two pairs of leaves.

Now, a body which has a stem with leaves attached to it is called a plant. So we found that the seed of a bean is made up of a small four-leaved plant, and a thin coat or covering enclosing this plant. The older pupils may be given the technical name (embryo) for the seed-plantlet. All can now understand that two thick pieces are not parts of the bean seed, but parts of plants. Call the two lower leaves—the fleshy ones—the seed-leaves. This name does not mean that they are the leaves of the seed, but the leaves of the seed-plantlet, or embryo. Call attention to the fact that the seed plantlet in the bean shows no evident signs of life—it must be dead or dormant. If only dormant, it can be aroused to activity. Consider the conditions which in the spring-time stimulate plants into active growth; then place some soaked beans between two circular pieces of porous paper saturated with water. Enclose the whole between two table plates, one plate being inverted upon the other. Set the plates in a fairly warm place, moisten the papers from time to time, and watch the awakening and growth of the little bean plant. Some beans may be planted in flower-pots at the same time. Note particularly the change in the two thick leaves and in the two thin ones, and what new organs soon appear. Emphasise the fact that it is not the seed which grows, but the embryo—the little plant in the seed.

On some other day let the pupils get seed-plantlets out of other large seeds, and compare them with that of the bean to find the corresponding parts. Ask them whether it is probable that clover seeds contain little plants, and inquire how they may be made large enough to see. Some of these small seeds should be germinated in the same manner as the beans until the seed-plantlets are sufficiently developed for examination.

FACING DEATH FOR A LIVING.

By Mr. Frank C. Boctock.

I expect the title to this article will be received with a certain amount of scepticism by the reader, but in the following anecdotes of animal training, it will be seen that the trainers literally face death for a living.

Although wild animals can be trained up to various stages of excellence, it is a mistake to suppose that they can ever be tamed. True, as a rule, they do what is required of them by their trainers, but their savage and treacherous instincts never leave them, and they are always liable to fits of ungovernable rage, which usually take place without any warning.

Nor is this the only danger to be faced. Carelessness or mistakes on the part of the trainer are alone responsible for a large number of accidents that happen in the arena. I remember an accident occuring to myself, when in Indianapolis, which might have proved fatal.

I was in the training school at the time, and had just thrown a piece of meat to one of my fiercest lions, whom we called Young Wallace. As he was eating, I stood idly by watching, and unconsciously tapped one of the long boots I was wearing as I did so. As this was a signal for the lion to take the whip when I held it over him, he left the meat and attempted to seize it from my hand. In doing so, his claws penetrated the fleshy part of my leg, and when he withdrew them he brought away a fair-sized piece of flesh. Needless to say, I showed no sign of the excruciating pain I felt, as, had I done so, it would have meant an attack upon me by the lion, whose savage nature would have been aroused by the pain or alarm shown on my part.

As a further illustration of the fatal effects of carelessness on the part of attendants and trainers, a terrible accident once took place in which an employe was killed. A hard-working young fellow, and a favorite with the others, by whom he was known as "Curly," he was sent one morning with some food in a basket to feed some lion cubs, which were in a cage next to Rajah, the big tiger. Now, all the employes had been warned about venturing near the cage, as it was extremely dangerous to do so, the animal being fierce and savage to a degree. Shortly after, the other attendants were seized with terror on hearing terrible screams issuing from Rajah's cage; and on rushing up, saw the unfortunate man suspended from the tiger's mouth. The poor fellow was killed in spite of the gallant efforts made by Mr. Stevenson, a trainer, to rescue him.

The same animal once nearly cost me my life. I had been rehearsing various tricks with him one day and was retiring through the runaway to shut him in the cage. Through carelessness on the part of one of the attendants, the door was not shut as it should have been, and Rajah seized the opportunity to spring upon me from behind. I was badly mauled by the animal, and so injured that a long and dangerous illness set in, culminating in concussion of the brain.

In dealing with wild animals it is essential that absolute obedience be insisted upon from them. For not only will an animal lose all respect for his trainer if he allows an act of disobedience to pass by, but will also avoid, if possible, ever doing that particular thing again.

Richard de Kenzo, a most daring trainer, and one who prefers to deal with only the more savage and treacherous animals, once nearly lost his life through this cause. He was training a tiger which persistently refused to perform any of the tricks set by him, and, concluding the animal was unwell, De Kenzo had the tiger taken back to its cage, and it is a strict rule that no animal which is the least unwell shall, for the time, either perform or be trained. However, when it was brought out on the next occasion for its lesson it refused to do anything, and became so infuriated when the trainer endeavored to make it, that it turned and attacked him. Fortunately, De Kenzo escaped with a badly-torn arm and hand, which was serious enough, however, to keep him in bed for several weeks.

There are numerous other instances I could give of the dangers an animal trainer has to contend with in the course of his career. For instance, should a trainer indulge too freely in liquor, or fall into habits likely to damage his self-respect, this fact will communicate itself to the animals under his charge more quickly even than to his colleagues and friends. The result is that the animals will cease to fear him, and will take the very first opportunity of showing their contempt by attacking him. Or, again, animals resent cruelty of any kind, and woe betide the trainer who practises cruel methods in the belief that he can teach his charges more quickly by doing so. Wild animals are very vindictive, and never forget the slightest injury done to them. They nurse up their wrongs and will wait an incredible time, but they will eventually revenge themselves in the end if it is possible for them to do so.

CALF-SHEDS AND FEEDING UTENSILS.

The calf reared on the average dairy farm is deserving of the most sincere commiseration. From the very early period of his existence when he is parted from his dam, his life is for some months an uphill struggle against unfavorable conditions. Undue exposure to cold and wet weather, combined with unsuitable, improper, and inadequate food, renders his lot a most unhappy and unfortunate one. Every dairy farmer should possess a warm, comfortable, and well-drained shed in which calves can take shelter during bad weather, no matter whether the cold of winter or the extreme heat of summer.

Proper arrangements should be made for feeding them. Buckets, or whatever vessels may be used for the food, should be thoroughly cleansed after each meal. It is bad enough for a calf to struggle along on separator milk, sometimes assisted by the addition of a little calf food, or linseed, or often with no such addition, without his already weakened and abused digestive system being further deranged by the assimilation of soured and decomposed food material from dirty vessels or troughs.

If the present system of rearing calves on inadequate food material continues, it will mean in process of time a general deterioration in constitution and disease-resisting power in our race of dairy cattle. As it is, the annual loss among young dairy-reared cattle under two years of age from parasitic and other diseases, is a very serious matter, and unless farmers as a body will improve their methods of rearing this will increase year by year. Yet it is almost wholly preventible if proper methods be followed.

If you would please yourself, please others.

A man is known by the company he keeps away from.

If you made a two-shilling mistake yesterday do not spend five shillings' worth of time and strength in bemoaning it to-day. The thing is done; it has passed beyond your reach. There is no more costly and unsuccessful way of putting "new cloth into old garments" than by wasting the fresh hours of the present in regrets for the rents of the past.

NORTHCOTE FOOTBALL CLUB.

The annual meeting took place on Friday evening, March 5. It was held at Croxton Park recreation reserve in the open air, an innovation that in the saltiness of the atmosphere was appreciated. There was a large attendance, there being not only the business of the meeting to attract, but a bioscope and vocal concert as well.

The secretary (Mr. A. J. Hutton) submitted the annual report, as follows:—Your committee have great pleasure in submitting the annual report and balance sheet for season 1908, and in doing so regret that the membership roll was extremely small compared with previous seasons, and find that with the small support of the general public they were not able to carry on in the park, and the Croxton recreation reserve being placed at their services and a 10 years' lease secured at a nominal rental of 10/- per annum, and it also being a central ground and on the tram track and railway convenient, they deemed it a more favorable ground both for convenience of public and from a financial point of view. The Victorian Association having approved of the same, and Mr. Randall having entered into an agreement to erect training room, pavilion, and stand, they closed with the offer, and trust to receive better support in the future. We are very pleased to be able to say that all the players were most loyal to the club, also trainers and match committee, all doing their utmost to promote the interests of the game. We have to record the substantial dividend of £10/- from the Victorian Association, and our best thanks are due to that body for their splendid return and valuable assistance to the Northcote club at all times. The delegates of the Association have always been most considerate when our club was concerned. The best thanks of the club are due to the two delegates on the association (Messrs Hartnett and Reid) who did yeoman service for the club. The club's thanks are also due to F. L. Taylor, Esq. (president), who entertained the players, committee and trainers at a dinner in the early part of the season. We are pleased to record a balance of £20 12s 5d, after paying all liabilities. It is with great regret we have to report the death of our old supporter and worker, Mr. Arthur, whose untimely death caused heartfelt regret and sympathy from all our members. The thanks of the committee are due to Mr. Kitson, hon. treasurer, and Mr. McGinty, assistant secretary, for their untiring efforts to promote the best interests of the club. In conclusion, we hope to have the hearty co-operation and support of all well-wishers of Northcote and patrons as in the past, and it affords us great pleasure in returning thanks to the patrons who so handsomely assisted the club last season.

In submitting the report Mr. Hutton said that considering this was the club's first season in Association football, he thought they had come through very successfully. They started the season in debt, but could now say that all liabilities were wiped off. They had got rather poor support at Northcote park, receiving much better as juniors. They looked for a great improvement in this respect, however, at Croxton, which, with the assistance of the players, should ensure them a prosperous season.

The report was adopted on the motion of Cr. Woolhouse and Mr. Pratt.

The balance-sheet showed total receipts amounting to £190 11s 10d, the largest items being £103 0s 11d, returns from V.F.A. final gates. The total receipts from ordinary gates were only £17 0s 11d, and against this there were losses on gates amounting in all to £1 18s 8d at Brighton (one match), and Northcote (4 matches). Patrons contributed £25 8s 6d, and member's tickets brought £31 5/. The total expenditure was £169 19s 5d, the largest items being—Players' expenses, £62; delegates' expenses, £10; printing, £10 13s 6d; football clothing and boots, £17; and secretary's expenses, £10. The balance sheet was also adopted.

Officers were elected as follows:—President, Cr. A. E. Woolhouse; general committee—Messrs R. Oliver, A. Edmonds, J. Clarke, T. Munro, T. Lowe, and F. Groves; match committee, J. Clarke, M. McGinty, A. Edmonds; treasurer, W. Kitson; hon. secretary, A. J. Hutton; delegates, J. Hartnett and T. Reid; medical officer, Dr. A. H. Sturdee.

Messrs Pratt, Clarke, Dwyer, Lowe, Oliver, and Hartnett were elected life members of the club as a reward for services rendered.

Mr. Hutton said he desired to specially thank Mr. Stalker, the head trainer, and also Dr. Sturdee for their valued services during the past season. He (Mr. Hutton) then introduced Cr. Woolhouse to the meeting, saying he felt sure he would make a real live president.

Cr. Woolhouse said he had to thank them heartily for the hon ur they had conferred. He had to congratulate the club on their balance sheet, and would like to say he approved of the move they had made "in leaving Fairfield and coming up to Northcote proper." (Applause and laughter). With a central position and a tramway in the front and a railway at the back they would find their gate money ten times increased. On behalf of the residents of that end of the town he would like to welcome the club to Croxton. (Applause).

The secretary also returned thanks for his re election, assuring the meeting he would do all in his power to make the club successful.

Subsequently the meeting was well entertained with bioscope views and also items by Messrs Rhodesbury (patter comedian), Bert White (comic), Cliff Monahan, George Harvey, the Vivians and Will McKay (accompanist).

"A Little Knowledge is a Dangerous Thing."

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—I was much interested to read the discussion by the "grave and reverend seigniors" of our local council on the letter written by Mr. Yardley re "useless expenditure of ratepayers' money. I certainly agree this case is one of those where "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing," but the query is who is in possession of the dangerous little knowledge, the councillor who contemptuously puts on one side a serious indictment which is perhaps only too well deserved, or the citizen who pays for having his streets cleansed and sees a man wasting time doing one half, and who also sees the other half left undone. My own experience in Westgarth street West, is the same as Mr. Yardley's, dirt and objectionable matter swept up on Monday last in heaps, 2 or 3 in front of one house, left there the rest of Monday, the wind blowing or rain washing parts of it back to the gutter; the same thing all day Tuesday, then Wednesday along comes the cart to take up what is left. Of course I see the danger Mr. Yardly or myself incur in presuming to discuss the matter, but the thought occurred to me that perhaps our worthy councillors find if the carts went round and collected the street sweepings before half of it got blown or washed away, they would need two carts, therefore they are the epitome of careful management safeguarding the funds of the city in a manner and with a foresight wonderful to behold (the health of the citizens does not matter). However, we will hope the works committee to whom the matter was referred will rise to the occasion and prevent one man's work being almost wasted.

Another serious matter in the same street is the want of attention to the roadway lately made up with new metal. The blinding has been promiscuously thrown here and there on the new metal laid down in the centre of the road; perhaps enough blinding was originally used. I went run into danger if I can help it—but it certainly was not, owing to the neglect of the responsible officer, distributed properly. There are now plenty of patches of metal which never saw any blinding, and where the metal is working up loose, will get kicked and rolled all over the road leaving holes where it if done properly and blinding equally distributed all over would have been a good road, and presently the ponderous machinery of the council's bralngear will be set to work perhaps only to discover it couldn't be helped; but if somebody with a "little knowledge" had had the sense enough to draw attention to it the state of Westgarth street would not then be a "dangerous thing".—Yours, &c., W.T.S.

Westgarth street.

PRESTON STREET CONSTRUCTION.

ADOPTION OF PLANS.

Monday evening last was the date fixed for the hearing of objections to the plans of several streets to be constructed under a special improvement rate. The chamber was filled with ratepayers interested, including ex Crs. Braithwaite and Barrow, who were provided with seats next the president.

1. Lane between West and William streets. Estimated cost £315.—Adopted, on the motion of Crs. Robertson and Crispe.

2. West street. Estimated cost, £282 3s.

The manager of the London Bank, Fitzroy, objected that they had been charged on the frontage to two streets.

Cr. Crispe moved that the adoption of the plans be held over and the objection noted. Cr. Paterson seconded.—Carried.

3. William street. Estimated cost, £297 4s.

The manager of the London Bank and Mr. Braithwaite raised objections as to being charged on too much frontage.

C. Stanlake and Mr. Westcott wanted to know, in case the tender price was lower than the estimate, if the difference would be returned to the property-owners

Cr. Crispe said it might be the other way about, and the tender exceed the estimate. It was impossible to pay anything back that is once paid to the council.

Cr. Howe said he thought the ratepayers could have every confidence that the apportionments had been properly computed and that they would be dealt with equitably and fairly.

Mr. C. Stanlake—We don't make any charge of unfairness.

The plan was adopted, on the motion of Crs. Howe and Wilkinson.

4. Lane between William street and railway. Estimated cost, £257 16s.

Mr. W. Braithwaite objected that the pitching of the right-of way was unnecessary, as he was making one block of the land. In fact, he could fence the right-of-way in.

Mrs. Cagney also objected that the right-of-way would not be the slightest use to her.

The London Bank Manager said the lane was too expensive.

Mr. I. Barrow said if the lane was made at all he hoped it would be thoroughly made.

Held over for further consideration.

5. Oliver street. Estimated cost, £160 9s.—Adopted, on the motion of Crs. Howe and Paterson.

6. Station street extension. Held over.

7. Murray road east. Estimated cost, £588 3s 6d.

Mary Boxhall said the drain must be attended to.

The London Bank manager said he would like to see portion of the work deferred, as the bank was billed for £142.

G. H. Hamilton asked that the work be gone on with, as it was very necessary. The road was impassable for a trap and part of it was a fever bed.

Held over—on the motion of Crs. Crispe and Paterson.

8. Seymour street. Estimated cost, £174 10s.—Adopted.

9. Right-of-way off Mary street. Estimated cost, £48.

Mr. C. Wilkinson said he failed to see why he should have to pay more than others when he had no more frontage.

Deferred—on the motion of Crs. Robertson and Wilkinson.

Wild street. Estimated cost, £78 8s.

Mr. Jones said the street was already channelled and he considered metalling unnecessary. He would ask that it be deferred for 12 months.

Mr. J. A. B. Freeman took the same objection.

Cr. Crispe said if it were deferred for 12 months it would have to be done under the Health Act, and the money would have to be paid down before the work was started.

Plans adopted, on the motion of Crs. Crispe and Robertson.

Right of way back of Henry street.

Mr. Freeman said the work was unnecessary except for the benefit of one man at the end of the street; and further they could get the work done for 33 per cent. less than the engineer's estimate.

Another objection raised was that the right of-way did not run out to High street.

Cr. Wilkinson said he had walked down the right-of-way and he thought it very necessary that it should be constructed.

Mr. Jones—I hope you don't say we come here to tell untruths.

The president—Cr. Wilkinson is entitled to his opinion.

Plan deferred on the motion of Crs. Crispe and Wilkinson.

Mr. Jones asked if the property owners themselves could carry out the work under the supervision of the engineer.

The president said his opinion was that this could be done. He would look further into the matter.

Seymour street. Estimate, £174 10s.—Adopted.

Lane 30, between Yann and Junction streets.

Mr. McKay urged that the work was not necessary.

Adopted, on the motion of Crs. Crispe and Robertson.

Junction street. Estimate, £160.

Mr. Pickard said the construction of the roadway was absolutely unnecessary, and they had got a channel to take away the drainage.

Mr. Dinwoodie also considered the work unnecessary.

Plan adopted, on the motion of Crs. Wilkinson and Crispe.

Milton street.—Plan adopted, on the motion of Crs. Howse and Stanlake.

Livingston parade.—Estimate, £90.

Mrs. Barron and the representative of the L. C. Bank objected to the work as unnecessary.

Plan adopted on the motion of Crs. Crispe and Warr.

Station street east. Estimate £153 10s 6d.—Plan adopted, on the motion of Crs. Wilkinson and Howe.

The deferred plans will come up for adoption on Monday, March 29.

St. George's Road Methodist Church.

The 18th anniversary of the St. George's Road Methodist Church was celebrated on Sunday, 21st February, the services were conducted by Rev. J. Nall, morning, Rev. T. Alday, afternoon, Rev. Mr. Ditterich, evening, to full congregations and supported by an excellent choir under the direction of Mr. Broadbent.

On Monday evening, February 22nd, a tea and public meeting was held in the church. Mr. Leake, of James street, presided over the meeting. Addresses were given by the Ministers of the circuit and a very satisfactory financial statement was submitted by Mr. C. Lugton. The choir rendered suitable selections, assisted by soloists. After the usual votes of thanks the benediction was pronounced.

The anniversary was further celebrated on Monday, March 1, by a lecture given by the Superintendent of the Sunday School (Mr. W. N. Brodin) the subject was "Birth, Life and Death of a Planet," the proceeds being on behalf of the church fund. The speaker gave his audience information that was to many new and very interesting. The address opened on the question of whether it is possible that a planet has a birth and a death. The speaker gave his audience the latest scientific knowledge that research has revealed of the elementary constitution of matter (the electron), and assisted by large charts, he conveyed to his audience the wonders of Nebulæ, its spectrum analysis and velocities with an insight into the exactness that prevails in the placing of a planet around its primary, showing the unspeakable wisdom of God, the great Architect. To the younger members of the audience he showed a chart of the Southern Cross with Alpha and Beta Centauri (the pointers) giving them an idea of the real and apparent facts of that constellation. With solos from Mr. W. Martin, Miss Wray, and Mrs. Broadbent a very profitable anniversary was concluded.

Board & Residence

ACCOMMODATION for couple of boarders (lady or gentlemen), comfortable home, nice garden, use of stable if desired. Few minutes from station. Apply this office.

Wanted.

SMART, clean Girl, light general, sleep home. Mrs. C. H. Richardson, "Aldersyde," High street, Preston.

THE WHISPERING GALLERY.

[FROM "PUNCH."]

There is going to be a fusion of parties in the Federal Parliament. This may sound a bold prophecy to those who have merely read Mr. Deakin's flowery speeches and Mr. J. Cook's good natured banter in reply. But when it is understood that the leaders are not leading, the situation becomes much less of a riddle. Several of Mr. Deakin's followers, noteably Mr. Salmon and Mr. John Thomson, are pressing for a reunion of the anti-Labor members. The mind of the Opposition corner was mirrored in Mr. Hans Irvine's sensible speech, and the patriotic, large minded direct Opposition members are forcing Mr. Cook forward to joint action with Mr. Deakin. Little Mr. M'Williams may stalwartly refuse to countenance any such merger. Senator Chataway, from Queensland, may denounce such groupings; but neither of these gentlemen carry any weight to speak of. Nor is Mr. Sam Mauger, with his vague phrases, much more influential. If a Deakin-Cook fusion were arranged, they would have to swing in behind it. Consider what the alternative would be—to support the Labour party. From it they would receive no quarter. They might play hanky-panky tricks like Mr. Norman Cameron on a memorable occasion. But the moment there is a fusion public opinion will cleave into two big parties. All Labor members will have to be loyal to the cause, or go out. One cannot imagine Mr. M'Williams or Senator Chataway or Mr. Mauger sacrificing their seats in such circumstances.

There are rumours afloat that Mr. Deakin did not stick close to the programme in his Tasmanian tour—that he, in fact, got a strangle hold on Mr. Cook after they had privately agreed that neither should try to take a mean advantage of the other. In the nature of things, however, Mr. Deakin was bound to attempt to make the world believe that he conceded nothing. He could not afford to talk small, for he has a motley crew behind him. His speeches had to convince steady thinkers like Mr. Thomson and gassy talkers like Mr. Wise that he had nailed his colours to the mast, and would not take them down for any man, no matter how tempting the bait spread before him. Mr. Cook had to swear to serve under his (Mr. Deakin's) flag. Mr. J. Cook is busily employed demonstrating that he, too, is adamant in his political principles, and won't consent to water them by even one drop to work in amity and concord with Mr Deakin. When they have both thoroughly convinced themselves that they are not yielding one jot or tittle they will both discover that fusion is ordained by Heaven, and proceed to fuse. There is much consolation in the trite couplet—

"Things may be useful, though obscure,
The pace that's slow is often sure."

Yet there are disturbing factors, especially for Mr. Cook. Mr. Deakin's perorations were not made by midnight oil for Mr. Cook, but for the Victorian corner. Mr Deakin is looking beyond Mr. Cook, and appealing to it in alluring metaphor. Some people would say he is trying to jockey Mr. Cook. That would be a hard way of stating the position, though in essence correct.

The Victorian corner stands midway between the two leaders. When Mr. Deakin was in power long headed followers fought desperately to keep open communication with this corner, for fear of some such eventuality as has occurred. The corner is the largest of the three anti-Labour blocks. The direct Cook opposition is next, and the Deakin party is smallest. The corner is allied to the Cook party by being in Opposition, but Mr. Deakin has most hold upon Victorian electorates, and has this pull over Mr. Cook. What he is playing for now is to get the corner to coalesce with his remnant of the old Barton party. Then would he command a majority of the anti-Labour votes, and be better able to dictate terms of fusion to Mr. Cook. Should Mr. Cook gather them into his fold, then will Mr. Deakin be placed in an awkward predicament. All the thunder and lightning, therefore, is directed to obtaining the co operation of the corner. Whichever leader gains this will boss the situation. By using the platform avowedly to educate public opinion, but really to sneak the corner party, Mr. Deakin has perhaps played "all in" with Mr. Cook; but Mr. Cook is no angel.

CRICKET.

The match between Preston Methodist and Albert Park was continued on Saturday last, and after an half-an-hour's play was stopped by rain, Albert Park winning on the first innings by 64 runs. Scores—Preston, 100 and 5 for 65; Albert Park, 164. This afternoon Preston play Fairfield Park at Fairfield. Players are requested to catch the 2.10 train.

Northcote Presbyterian B v. St. Andrew's, played at Prince's Park and resulted as follows:—Northcote, 117 and 7 for 56 (Thomson 19, Hayes 16); St. Andrew's, 96 (Thomson 6 for 26). Northcote won by 21 runs on the first innings.

Players and supporters of the Northcote Congregational are requested to catch drag at the corner of Darebin road and High street at 2 o'clock, where they journey to Albert Park to play Yarraville United in semi-final match.

Preston Presbyterian v. Heidelberg. This match had to be abandoned owing to the rain, Heidelberg winning by 13 runs on the first innings. Preston play Clarendon street at the tram terminus to-day.

Prince of Wales' Park I.O.R. play a semi-final match against the North Fitzroy I.O.R. on the ground of the former to day.

Northcote play Riddell's Creek at Riddell this afternoon. Players and members meet at Spencer St. to catch the 12.15 (Bendigo) train.

There will be no practice at the park today. Players are requested to attend on Tuesday and Thursday next week.

Wednesday Cricket.—Northcote suffered defeat by the narrow margin of 6 runs at the hands of Moonee Ponds on Wednesday. The match was commenced on the previous Wednesday when Northcote had lost 9 for 132. Only 4 runs were added, bringing the total to 136 (Blundell 16, Phillips 14, Vernon 12, Ashby 11, Teasdale 11; Lloyd 7 for 52). Moonee Ponds made 142 (Spencer 75, Lloyd 25; Blundell, 8 for 92).

Be sure you ask for and see that you get **T. W. SHERRIN'S** Improved Match Cricket Balls—absolutely the strongest made ball the world produces. Look for the name and "Kangaroo Brand" which are gold stamped on each ball. Manufactory: 32 and 34 Wellington St., Collingwood. Sherrin's cricket balls are used by the English Eleven and all the Leading Clubs of Melbourne in pennant matches; also ordered by the trustees of the Sydney cricket ground, and used throughout the Commonwealth by the leading clubs.

Early History of Preston.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—In fairness to Mr. Hamilton will you kindly make a correction in my report on the paper read by him at our association and published in Saturday's *Leader*. I made it to read that Batman's famous treaty was signed in Preston. What Mr. Hamilton said was that the *Australian Journal* gave the locality of Batman's famous treaty as being on the banks of the Darebin Creek, near Epping, but Mr. James Blackburn, C.E., in a lecture he delivered on the subject showed the spot was more likely to have been on the banks of the Plenty river, near Eltham. However, whether one place or the other it was pretty certain that Jika Jika, which took in Preston, was portion of the 600,000 acres traversed and referred to by Batman. Yours, &c., W. WARD.

Houses & Land To Let.

PRESTON.—Villa, 6 rooms, stabling, fruit trees, 1½ acres, 17/6. Villa, 7 rooms, best street 13/6. Residence, 7 rooms, adjoins station, 20/. Villa, 7 rooms, land 50 x 200, 13/6. Villa, 5 rooms, land 50 x 280, 10/. Villa, 6 rooms, good position, 10/. Villa, 7 rooms, ½ acre, 12/6. Cottage, 5 rooms, good order, 6/6. Cottage, 4 rooms, 2 acres, 7/6. Shop, 4 rooms, main street, 8/.

BRUNSWICK.—Sydney road, new shop and dwelling, 40/.

MORELAND.—Sydney road, shop and dwelling, 22/.

McGeorge Bros., rent collectors, Preston and Brunswick.

CULTIVATION.—100 acres at Bundoora, 12 months' lease, well fenced, splendid growing land, comfortable house, 23 cow bails, 6 stall stable, nominal rental. Full particulars from McGeorge Bros.

THE VALUE OF ADVERTISING.

AND HOW TO ADVERTISE.

Here are sixteen good reasons why you should advertise:—

1. Money invested in judicious advertising is like a boomerang—it is bound to come back again with re-doubled power.

2. The most results don't come from the most expenditure; they come from the most intelligent expenditure.

3. Advertise for business; then advertise to make it better; then advertise to keep it.

4. Sit still, and your business will sit still, too.

5. Advertising is not a necessity, neither is the telephone, nor the telegraph, nor the train; but they are mighty convenient when you want to get there quickly.

6. There is no trade so settled but a vigorous competitor may take it away by advertising.

7. One or two insertions of an advertisement are all right; it is the consecutive, continuous, and persistent efforts that win in advertising, as in the affairs of business.

8. Advertise as you eat, regularly and in reasonable quantity.

9. Advertise just as a farmer plants corn, not a big sackful at one time in one place, and then stop; but a few grains at place in regular order and in regular time.

10. Keep it up week after week, month after month, and success will surely come.

11. The life of a newspaper advertisement is not of to-day only, or to-morrow. Each advertisement talks until the paper is actually destroyed.

12. The most successful merchants of any are those who use advertising space regularly in the local paper. There may be exceptions, but they are not one in a hundred.

13. Advertising is casting your bread upon the waters, and seeing the results returning.

14. Advertising space is truly as much a part of your business and property as the window in which you display your goods, or the office in which you transact your business.

15. Get rid of the common, but woefully mistaken, idea that advertising is something outside of business—a mere external aid, but not an integral part of it.

16. Get hold of the idea that advertising is a vital part of the business, and advertising space an extension of the premises, and a valuable part of your stock-in-trade. It multiplies your opportunities of doing business a thousandfold.

Houses & Land For Sale.

McGEORGE BROS., Auctioneer and Estate Agents, High street, Preston, and 358 Sydney road, Brunswick (Moreland tram terminus), offer the following properties For Sale.

AUCTION Sale.—Subdivisional block. Vacant land, Breese St., Brunswick, on the ground, 3 o'clock next Saturday. McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Magnificent villa, 6 spacious rooms, all conveniences, splendidly built, corner position, first class railway ticket, land 77 x 134. Bargain, £550. McGeorge Bros

PRESTON.—No deposit, no interest. Grand building blocks, 50 x 180, £27. Easy payments, 9/ month. High position, beautiful scenery, close railway. Ask for plans Sheffield Estate. McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Post Office Estate, adjoining bowling green, close Murray station. Allotments, 34 x 117, £17, central position. £3 deposit, easy repayments. McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Beautiful Station Estate. Allotments, 50 x 119, pick of the district, splendidly drained, low reserves. £2 deposit, balance 7 years. McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Pretty Queen Anne villa, 5 rooms, conveniences, southerly aspect, lovely position, land 56 x 125, £390. Terms, £35 deposit, balance 14/ week. McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Farm, 15 acres, best soil in district, subdivided, convenient paddock, good cultivation, comfortable house, outbuilding, £950. McGeorge Bros.

McGEORGE BROS., Auctioneer, 323 High street, Preston, and 358 Sydney road, Brunswick, conduct auction sales of Furniture, Live Stock, and Properties of every description in any part of the State. Clients desirous of selling please communicate.

Local Government.

SHIRE OF PRESTON.

Applications are invited for appointment as Lamplighter, Ranger, and Inspector under the Dog Act, Health Acts, Pure Food Act, and Thistle Act, at a salary at the rate of £130 per annum and a commission of 20 per centum on all dog fees collected.

Personal canvass of councillors will disqualify.

Applications must be received by me not later than 4 p.m. on Monday, 15th March, 1909.

T. J. WITHRINGTON,
Shire Secretary.

Shire Office, Preston,
25th February, 1909.

SHIRE OF PRESTON.

TENDERS are invited, returnable up to 4 p.m. on Monday, March 15, for the supply of Maintenance Metal as hereunder:—

1. 250 cubic yards 2-inch, Sec. 1, High St.
2. 250 cubic yards 2-inch, Sec. 1, Plenty Rd.
3. 250 cubic yards 2-inch, Sec. 2, Epping Road.
4. 250 cubic yards 2½-inch, Sec. 2, Plenty Road.

Specifications, &c., at Shire Hall. Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

T. J. WITHRINGTON,
Shire Engineer.

SHIRE OF PRESTON.

REGISTRATION OF DOGS.

Notice is hereby given that all Dogs within the Shire of Preston must be Registered at this office on or before the 16th day of March, 1909. Any person having an unregistered dog after that date will be liable to be proceeded against in accordance with the Dog Act 1890.

G. H. HAMILTON,
Collector.

Municipal Offices,
High Street, Preston,

SHIRE OF EPPING.

Applications will be received at the Shire Hall, Epping, on Monday, 15th March, 1909, for the office of Poundkeeper; salary, £5 per annum.

By order,
JAMES RYAN,
Shire Secretary.

5th March, 1909.

BOTTLES, Bones, Rags, Zinc, Lead, Brass and Copper. Highest price given. Cash on deliver Letters receive prompt attention. H. Bl op, Darebin Rd., Northcote.

NORTHCOTE
Property Exchange.

Stott & Bastings
(H. E. BASTINGS, W. S. STOTT).

Auctioneer,
Sworn Valuer,
Estate & Insurance Agents.

RENTS COLLECTED.

BUILDINGS ARRANGED.

MONEY TO LEND ON DEEDS.

OFFICES:
207 High St., Northcote.
521 High St., Upper Northcote.
Station St., Fairfield (on station).
381 High St., Preston (opp. Shire Hall)
Heidelberg Road, Alphington.

Tel. 1976.

Ernest Lees,

ESTATE AGENT,

299 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE
(next "Leader" office).

I am gratified with the splendid support which the property owners and residents of this district have given me during the last year.

I am looking forward with confidence to even greater success during 1909.

My business is conducted on the soundest and cleanest lines, and while strenuous efforts are put forth to effect sales, no attempt is made to FOIST property upon purchasers This system has inspired confidence and almost invariably one purchaser has recommended a relation or friend to do business through me.

I shall be pleased to receive particulars of property for sale.

Notify me when your insurance business needs attention and leave the rest to me.

Before building consult me. I can save money for you and relieve you of much worry.

Allow me to collect your rent, invest your money, manage your auction sale, or insure your life in the A.M.P.

Does House Property PAY?

Well, that depends on the firm that does your business for you. Probably 95 per cent. of agents have very little practical knowledge of the construction or repairs of a house, and are deficient also of the legal training which should be possessed by a competent agent to enable him to properly discharge the important duties of his profession. That accounts for the absurd and serious mistakes made by incompetent agents which are liable to involve owners in costly law expenses and sometimes loss of property.

Thousands of pounds are lost by owners through allowing their property to go out of repair, which a practical agent could have saved them by reliable advice given them when it was first needed. If you wish your property to pay good interest on your money place it in the hands of THE PRACTICAL AGENTS,

Gordon Garrett & Co.,

the only agents in the district with legal and building trade experience. Specialists in House Property, Insurance Experts. We advance money to buy or build, supply plans, specifications, and estimates. If you wish to insure your house or furniture, just drop us a note so that we may call and quote you lowest rates.

No business is too small or too large for us to attend to. Note address—
GORDON GARRETT & CO.,
Architects, Builders, Estate, Insurance and Financial Agents,
583-585 High St., Upper Northcote
(near Thornbury station).

Houses built, cash or terms, materials and workmanship guaranteed. No "jerry building" catered for. Representatives for these districts for the new "Madera-Ferro-Concrete" Buildings now coming into use in Australia. Better and cheaper than weatherboard or brick—more artistic and comfortable. Don't imagine because our buildings are well built and artistic they are necessarily expensive. We build well at a fair price to maintain a good reputation and secure further business. A well built, artistic home is cheaper than a jerry building. With its artistic design, harmoniously and tastefully blended decorations, and those little up-to-date conveniences that help to make a pleasant and comfortable home, it is the pride of its owner and friends, adds to his social distinction and is a valuable property to sell or let—while Brown's house built by "Runemup," the "jerry builder," is a constant source of expense to him for repairs and a heavy loss if he wishes to sell.

Stocktaking Sale
of
FANCY GOODS,
VASES,
GLASSWARE,
STATIONERY,
TOYS,
POST CARDS,
&c.

ALL ARTICLES GREATLY REDUCED.

FOR ONE MONTH ONLY.

Commencing Saturday, 13th March,
at
A. LEWIS'S,
350 QUEEN'S PARADE,
NORTH FITZROY.

H. ADAMS,
BUTCHER,
322 High Street,
NORTHCOTE.

LATE W. H. TACEY.

ONLY ONE QUALITY KEPT—
THE BEST.

The high standard of excellence, which made Mr. Tacey's name famous in this progressive district will still be maintained.

Telephone 114, Brunswick.

NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER FIRM.

Announcements

NORTHCOTE METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL.

FIFTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY.

Sunday, 14th March.
Preachers:
Morning at 11, Rev. J. NALL.
Afternoon at 3, Rev. C. TREGEAR.
Evening at 7, Mrs. BRIDE BARBER.

Sunday, 21st March.
Preachers:
Morning at 11, Rev. E. T. COX.
Afternoon at 3, Rev. R. DITTERICH.
Evening, Rev. T. ALDAY.

OPENING NEW SCHOOL,
Monday, 15th, at 7.15.
Concert at 8 o'clock. Admission, Silver Coin

SCHOLARS' NIGHT,
Tuesday, 23rd March. Admission, Silver Coin.

Societies

A.N.A.

AUSTRALIAN NATIVES!

Join the Northcote branch. Meetings held on alternate Thursday evenings, Town Hall, Westbourne Grove.

Interesting Syllabus arranged. Essays, Debates, Shooting Competitions, Harmony, &c., &c. The public invited to each meeting.

Low Contributions for Benefit Members. Funds rapidly increasing.

Next meeting—25th March.
Debate with Collingwood branch.
H. F. BATTEN, Sec., Westbourne grove.

Independent Order of Rechabites.

Star of Northcote Tent No. 217.

MEETINGS held at Rechabite Hall every alternate Thursday
Next Meeting—18th March.
Juveniles meet every alternate Friday.
BENEFITS—
Sick Pay—For 12 months, £1 a week.
Following 6 months, 10/- a week,
Afterwards during sickness, 5/- a week.
Funeral—£20 at death of member.
£15 at death of member's wife (if insured).
FEES—
Benefit members, 1/- week upwards.
Honorary members, 1/- quarter.
Proposition Fee, 2/6.
J. NEWNHAM, Secretary.

PRESTON and NORTHCOTE
Live Stock Market.

POULTRY, FURNITURE, SUNDRIES,
Every TUESDAY at 1 o'clock sharp.
Send your Poultry to us, good prices obtained.

MESSRS NICOL, MILLER & Co. will hold regular sales at their now yards, Tram Terminus, Preston, of Cattle, Pigs, Horses, Vehicles, &c.

Clients are requested to notify us as early as possible of stock coming forward.

Auction Sales of Land, Houses, Furniture, Stock, &c., conducted in any part of the district at lowest rates.

Local agents for the Liverpool & London & Globe Fire and Accident Co. Assets exceed £11,000,000.

Furniture stored free and sold on commission.

Anything and everything.

Houses wanted For Sale and To Let. Several good clients waiting.

NICOL, MILLER & CO.,
AUCTIONEER,
LIVE STOCK SALESMEN,
TRAM TERMINUS, PRESTON.
Telephone 260, Brunswick.

Clifton Hill Produce Company,

259 QUEEN'S PARADE,

CLIFTON HILL,

DESIRE to announce to their clients and the public generally that they have decided to establish

Real Estate
and
Insurance (Fire & Life)

Agency in connection with their Produce business.

HOUSES and LAND FOR SALE or TO LET.

RENTS COLLECTED.

FIRE and LIFE INSURANCES EFFECTED.

TRUST MONIES TO LEND.

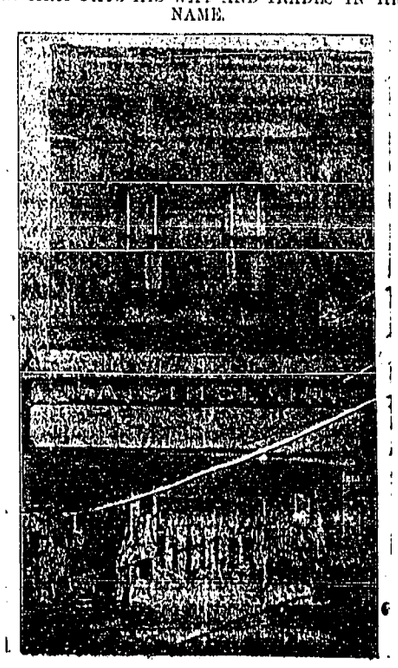
Chaff & General Produce
AT CURRENT RATES.

Yes! Yes! Yes!
THIS IS SINCLAIR'S,
The PEOPLE'S BUTCHER,

THE FIRST BUTCHER IN NORTHCOTE TO GIVE YOU CHEAP MEAT.

THE MAN THAT GIVES SIXTEEN OZS. TO THE POUND.

THE MAN THAT PAYS HIS WAY AND TRADES IN HIS OWN NAME.



Business Announcements

TO-DAY!
TO-DAY!
Saturday, 13th March,
and
ALL NEXT WEEK.

LAST DAYS
LAST DAYS
of
HATTAM & HATTAM'S,
Drapers, Northcote,

Summer Sale!

Bargains in Every Dept.
Bargains in Every Dept.

MISS B. WILLMOTT, COSTUMIERE.
ASK TO SEE HER.

BEST'S BARGAIN FAIR!!

LAST WEEK OF SALE.
LAST WEEK OF SALE.

To make room for NEW SEASON'S GOODS we are making

SPECIAL REDUCTIONS
in all lines.

This gives you the opportunity of securing some
RARE BARGAINS.

For Example—
1/9 Lace Cuffs now 10½d
Good 6d & 9d Lace Trimmings now 3d & 3½d
Good Washing Prints, 2/11 dozen
1/9 Blouse Lengths, now 11½d

You can pick out money-savers by the dozen.

Miss Harley is now making New Season's Costumes
Call and See her for your Easter Fitting.

BEST & CO.
DRAPERS & MERCERS,
HIGH ST. UPPER NORTHCOTE.

F. G. SMITH,
DRAPERS, ETC.,
245 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.

RECORD SALE STILL ON.

SPECIALS FOR TO-DAY:

Men's Ready-to-Wear Clothing.
Boys' " Suits.
Girls' " Hats.
Ladies' " Millinery.

Now is your opportunity to buy before we open up New Season's Goods.

VOICE FROM ACROSS THE SEAS.

MY EXPERIENCES IN REGENT, OXFORD AND BOND STREETS.

BOND STREET.

This street is much narrower than either Regent or Oxford streets. Its buildings are not so attractive as regards brightness, the shops are much smaller, not on such a colossal scale; there is no great display of goods in the windows. In many cases the glass doors are kept closed. A commissionaire, with an abundance of gold braid on his cap, with coat heavily trimmed with gold lace, braid, and buttons, and as many medals on his breast as he has won, stands like a sentinel outside the door and opens it when the duchesses and titled ladies drive up in their carriages. One of these commissionaires remarked to the tourist that he had more gold on his cap than in his pocket (he was looking for a friend). Many of the business places in Bond street are termed "specialty" houses. They do not stock general merchandise, even in their own line, but a few definite lines, the latest fashion that art can invent or create, and the very best that can be procured.

Now I found my way into Bond street with two ideas in my mind, "put in the time" and "only looking for a friend." Visited many of these establishments and had conversations in several. In one was shown a ladies' trimmed hat, price £35. On remarking how expensive, they reminded me it was a very ordinary price, in fact it showed a great reduction, as the fashion in millinery in this house changed both in style and color about every six weeks. I had seen one in another part of the city a few days before (not the first time I went to "put in the time" and "only look for a friend") price 21 guineas, but that was a moderate sum compared to the Bond street one. In the next place called at saw a remarkable coat. This coat was so constructed in shape and style that it could be worn in about ten different ways, yet it actually was the same coat. It won first prize, 21 guineas, in open competition. There were seven judges—

The Duchess of Sutherland
The Countess of Wilton
Lady Beatrice Rawson

and four other distinguished ladies. The firm also presented the inventor with a cheque for 21 guineas. I once read of a very remarkable coat, a bright, gorgeous, brilliant coat, a coat of many colors, and so wonderfully made that it was without a single seam from top to bottom, but I never saw such a wonderful coat as the one on exhibition in Bond street.

By way of a change next called in at a fruit shop. Saw grapes at 7/6 per lb. and pine apples 5/- each, but cracknels were only 9d lb.; in Melbourne they are 2/6. Next found my way into a speciality house for Russian furs, &c., &c. Here saw a fur toque, price £1000, a small fur cape for lady's shoulders and back, price £1500, a fur necklet, 275 guineas. Handled both the cape and the fur necklet, but needless to say did not purchase—for I was "only looking for a friend." Again, walking along Bond street, going into a few of the shops, and passing by many others, eventually entered a very exclusive establishment. In letters of gold over the door was written—"Under the distinguished patronage of the Court." Did not wait for the man with many buttons and much gold braid and lace to open the door, but opened it myself and walked in. The staff looked with much surprise at one walking in in such an unceremonious manner. Being met by a fine looking gentleman who asked me my pleasure, I replied "only looking for a friend." He looked me down, not up and down, but simply down. He then looked at the door and not seeing neither a carriage, a coachman nor a footman, he quickly concluded that I was neither a lord nor a duke. He then ventured to say that I had possibly made a mistake. Without any hesitancy whatever I promptly assured him I had not. That as this was a business house my friend was just as likely to be there as in any other establishment in Bond street, at the same time getting past him. It then dawned on his mind that whilst I was neither a lord nor a duke I was no doubt one of those ordinary individuals which are often to be seen in Bond street—an American millionaire. He then conducted me through the establishment to help me to find my friend, not failing as we passed along to draw my attention to its grandeur. Having escorted me round and back to the starting-point he most graciously and politely bowed me out, no doubt having in his mind's eye the possibility of future business.

On again entering Bond street consoled myself (not for the first time since arriving in London) that if the tourist wants to see anything he must go on till he is told to stop. If he wants to know anything he is foolish to himself if he goes without the knowledge for the want of asking. Having been told about half-a-dozen times that there was a diamond shop in this street which no tourist should miss seeing on account of its almost untold wealth, went in search of it and meeting a friendly policeman we walked together to the spot. He called my attention to one small diamond ring valued £5000.

The brilliancy of the windows was almost beyond description, for the gold did glitter and the diamonds did sparkle. The pearls and the precious stones and the costly jewellery were beyond the grasp of ordinary mortals, as far away as the palace is beyond the reach of the humble cottager. Could now believe what I had frequently heard since arriving in this old land that the dress and jewellery on many ladies when attending the Queen's drawingroom will amount to anything between £50,000 and £300,000.

Whilst looking here was tempted to make a few small purchases; it would be nice to take them back with me as little presents, and they were so small, would not take up much room and could so easily be packed away in my trunk when I suddenly remembered that I had already been shopping in another part of the city at an establishment called "The Penny Bazaar" every article in the shop "all one price," nothing could be had for less than one penny and no article was more. In this place I had purchased rather freely. This, combined with the fact that I had been rather generous with my tips during the past week made my funds at this particular moment rather low. The tourist soon learns in London (and anywhere else) that he has to pay as he goes and when he cannot he doesn't go. So I stood and mused, I trust it was not meanness or flippancy on my part, but I just thought I would wait until I reached that city where I am told its foundations are precious stones and its gates are made of pearls and the very streets are of "pure gold." So, saying "good day" to my friend the policeman, walked on a few yards, quickly turned a corner and suddenly vanished off the face of the earth,—reappearing about two miles away.

(To be continued).

PRESENTATION TO MR. J. H. SMITH.

A complimentary evening was tendered to Mr. J. H. Smith by the combined committees of the last two annual picnics of the employes of the Northcote Brick Company. The event took place in the supper room of the Carters' Arms hotel on the 5th inst. There was a good attendance, an abundance of refreshments, and an entertaining programme. Mr. R. White presided and kept things swinging merrily. Apologies were received from the mayor (Cr. Tharratt) and Mr. C. C. Osborne, who were unable to be present. Those who contributed songs, etc., were Messrs S. Lohmann, J. Crennan, Slater, R. White, W. Gray, G. Callesen, E. Power, A. Hopkinson, S. Garner, C. Loyal, P. Nissen, and Mr. Jas. Pizer acted as accompanist.

During the three years Mr. Smith has been with the company he has earned the good-will and esteem of the workmen, and two years ago was instrumental in inaugurating afresh the annual picnic—a social fixture that was in existence twenty years ago, but vanished, like many other pleasures, with the collapse of the boom. Both last year and this year Mr. Smith acted as honorary secretary to the picnic committee, and the committees were so thoroughly satisfied with his work in that direction that they wished to recognise it in something more than a formal way.

It fell to Mr. C. Loyal to propose the chief toast of the evening, viz.—"Our Guest." In doing so he said that Mr. Smith was esteemed by all the workmen, and he had proved himself a tower of strength in instituting and engineering the last two picnics. (Applause).

Mr. E. Power, in supporting the toast, said that the good feeling Mr. Smith had created in the yard proved that he was not only a gentleman but one of themselves. (Applause.) To the men working in the yards he always had a kind, encouraging, and sympathetic word, and it was these little attentions that appealed to the men. (Applause). He was a sterling secretary and an enthusiastic worker.

Messrs Chapman and Harley also supported the toast, which was drunk with enthusiasm and musical honors.

Mr. Loyal then handed to Mr Smith a very elegant gold-mounted guard as a memento of the committee's appreciation of his services as secretary to the picnic.

Mr. Smith said he would not be human if he were not impressed with the kind references made concerning himself and the presentation the committee had been generous enough to make him. He appreciated their kindness, their goodwill, and their enthusiasm very much. He felt that he had done nothing more than his duty, for a thing that was worth doing was worth doing well. (Applause). There were others who had worked quite as hard as he had done. The chairman, for instance, had toiled incessantly to make the picnic a success, and others were equally energetic. He again thanked them very heartily for their kindness. (Applause).

Other toasts were honored as follows:—"The Visitors," proposed by Mr T. Willmott and responded to by Mr. Matthews; "The Chairman and Committee," proposed by Mr. F. Pullyblank, supported by Mr. H. Chapman, and responded to by Mr. R. White; "The Local Press," proposed by Mr. J. H. Smith and acknowledged by Mr. Whalley.

INDIGESTION PROMPTLY CURED.

MRS. RICE, of Grafton Street, GOULBURN, N.S.W., says: "I have derived great benefit from **Bile Beans**. For a long time I was a martyr to indigestion and Biliousness. My appetite completely went and a nasty dizziness would come over me. I sought the advice of physicians, but they were unsuccessful in relieving me. As a last resource I tried **Bile Beans**. Their effect was wonderful, and I am thankful to say that I have been a different woman ever since."

Price 1/6½ per box, or 2/9 special family size, containing 3 times the quantity of the 1/6½ box

BILE BEANS FOR BILIOUSNESS — ONE BEAN A DOSE

Accountancy.

ERNEST J. NEILSON, ACCOUNTANT, BOOK KEEPER, and AUDITOR.

Books opened and kept (single and double entry).
Balance Sheets prepared.
Accounts Adjusted.
Income Tax Schedules Compiled.
Fifteen years' experience Commercial and Banking Methods.

Terms Arranged.
14 Lawry St., Northcote.

Do not advertise and stop,
But advertise and stay;
For those who read your ad. last time
Will look for it to-day.

A MOTHER'S PRAISE.

Suffered from Sore and Swollen Breasts—Nearly Mad with Pain—Many Treatments Failed—Zam-Buk Again Successful.

Mrs. A. Sampson, who resides in Edgeware road, Palmerston North, N.Z., has proved the value of Zam-Buk for sore, swollen, and bleeding breasts. There is nothing so soothing and comforting for this kind of trouble as Zam-Buk. It takes out the pain, and heals the parts in a natural way. Speaking of the great benefits she has derived from Zam-Buk, Mrs. Sampson says:—"Having derived such great relief from Zam-Buk I think it only just that I should let you know what I think of it. Some three years ago after the birth of my first baby, I suffered from dreadfully sore breasts, which caused me untold agony. The breasts were swollen, and used frequently to bleed. I was in constant fear and dread lest anything should touch me, and the lotion I got from the chemist, as well as the doctor's prescription, did no good—in fact not even gave me relief. I was nearly out of my mind with the agony when I received a sample pot of Zam-Buk Balm, and immediately applied it. I was not only grateful but astonished at the wonderful effect the Balm had, for it was most soothing, and almost immediately stopped the pain. After using Zam-Buk for a few days it thoroughly healed the breasts, for which my unbounded gratitude is due to Zam-Buk." Zam-Buk, the great household healing Balm, promptly cures Sore Legs, Ringworms, Barcoo, Piles, Cuts, Bruises, Burns, and expels disease, tones up the tissues and regenerates the skin in health. Price 1s 6d per pot, or 3s 6d large family size (3s 6d size holds nearly four times 1s 6d), from all chemists and stores.

PUNCH PARS.

One advantage of having a Governor like Sir Thomas Gibson Carmichael lies in the fact that he is so easily entertained. If nothing else of an enlivening nature offers, you have only to give him a new kind of mosquito or a purple-maned grasshopper, and he is as happy as the proverbial dog with a thin tail. At Bendigo the other day His Excellency said: "I am pleased to be here, because I have had the pleasure this moment of looking at a fly I never saw before in my life." This may not have been very complimentary to the Mayor and Councillors and other Bendigonian big bugs present, but it shows that Sir Thomas is a man easy to please. Now when it is known that he is about to visit any centre, the authorities need not set about providing banquets and festivities; they have only to fill a pill box with ticks, catch a goggle eyed tadpole to afford the Governor absolute bliss. Certainly a fad is a useful thing in a Governor.

An actress well known in Australian capitals tells of an experience in Sydney. She was introduced to the mother of a rising young politician at a mill social function, and the introducer left them together. Presently, to make conversation, the actress said: "Have you seen my Juliet?" The old lady regarded her with surprise. "Your Julie?" she said, "Dear me, no! How old is she? Why, I didn't even know you were married."

Baronet Sir Rupert Turner Hasslock Clark will celebrate his forty fourth birthday on the 16th of this month. At one time Victoria's only baronet took some interest in politics, but of recent years he has found more pleasure in growing rubber trees in Papua, canning rabbits at Sunbury, owning racehorses, and sharing theatrical ventures, all of which mean that he is a very wealthy man.

Cheap won't take you very far—
You've got to keep on walking;
One word won't tell folks what you are—
You've got to keep on talking;
One inch won't make you very tall,
You've got to keep on growing;
One little "ad." won't do it all—
You've got to keep 'em going.

Dentists.

DENTISTRY.

T. WEBSTER, L.D.S. (Licentiate of Dental Surgery) M.A.C.D.

308 Queen's Parade, CLIFTON HILL.

AMERICAN DENTISTRY.

MR. ALEX. G. DE LACY, R.D.S., Dentist,

Desires to inform the Residents of Northcote that he may be consulted at his private residence—

"TORONTO," MARTIN ST., NORTHCOTE.

Hours—8 a.m. to 9 a.m.
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Or by special appointment.

The Latest High-Class System of Dentistry at Lowest Fees.
Artificial Teeth, Upper or Lower Set, from £2 10/.
Painless Extraction of Teeth, 2/6.

City Address—
153 ELIZABETH ST., Between Bourke and Little Collins Streets, MELBOURNE.

W. Kitson, PAINTER AND PAPERHANGER, 84 Charles Street, NORTHCOTE SOUTH.

Superior Workmanship and none but the best materials used.

Estimates Given.

Rooms Papered with Art Paper from £1.

Those contemplating getting their houses renovated cannot do better than consult the above.

IF You are running an entertainment of any kind, be wise and ADVERTISE it thoroughly

Law.

MADDOCK, JAMIESON AND LONIE, SOLICITORS AND CONVEYANCERS, Market Buildings 445 Collins Street MELBOURNE.

MADDEN, DRAKE & CANDY SOLICITORS, PROCTORS, CONVEYANCERS, 436 COLLINS ST., MELBOURNE (next to Scott's Hotel). Tel 196.

Mr. R. Candy's private address—88 Cunningham Street, Northcote.

HOME AND WILKINSON, SOLICITORS, CONVEYANCERS, &c., Commercial Union Chambers, 413 Collins Street, Melbourne. Tel. 853.

W. J. HOME, Commissioner for Victoria. A. S. WILKINSON. Private address—"Fylingdales," King William St., Preston

LOCAL OFFICE: McGeorge's Agency, High St., where Mr. Wilkinson will attend Tuesdays and Fridays from 8.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.

ROBERT G. BALL (HENDERSON & BALL). SOLICITORS, &c., Molesworth Chambers, 450 LITTLE COLLINS STREET (Chancery Lane), MELBOURNE.

Private Residence—"Landwor," Heidelberg Road, near Studley Road, Ivanhoe. Tel. 973, City.

Music.

NORTHCOTE SCHOOL OF MUSIC. MRS. LEONARD BAKER and MISS HILDA BAKER, OPPOSITE TOWN HALL, NORTHCOTE.

During 1908 fourteen pupils entered for examinations in four different grades, and all passed, two with honours.
Over 100 prizes in competitions.
Students prepared for examinations, &c.
Theory Class, Saturday, 6 to 7.
Terms on application.

MR. SIDNEY R. COLE, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., London; 10 years Professor and Examiner at the London Academy of Music; Licentiate, Royal Academy of Music London (Singing); Licentiate, Royal Academy of Music, London (Pianoforte); Associate, Royal College of Music, London (Pianoforte); PROFESSOR of VOICE PRODUCTION, SINGING and PIANOFORTE.
Mr. Cole is the only musician in Australia holding the Specialist (L.R.A.M.) Diploma in Two Subjects, from the Royal Academy of Music, London.
Lessons given at the residence of Mr. E. Lees, "Talgarno," Clarke St., Northcote, and at Allan's, Collins St.

L. BRENNECKE (Royal Cons., Cologne & Berlin), VIOLIN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONY, and COUNTERPOINT.

1 PLOW ST. (opp. Thornbury Railway Station).

MISS QUEENIE PARKER A.L.C.M., Receives and Visits Pupils for the PIANOFORTE.
Pupils prepared for London College, Conservatorium, &c., Exams.
"Norman," Waterloo Road, Northcote.

MISS M. V. MAGUIRE (pupil of Mr W. A. Laver, University Conservatorium). Registered teacher of PIANOFORTE, THEORY, & HARMONY.
Pupils prepared for Matriculation and other Examinations.
Terms from £1 1s. Preston visited twice a week. Address—
182 High St. (opp. Town Hall), Northcote.

EDGAR B. SCHWAEBSCH, Teacher of PIANOFORTE.
Pupils prepared for Competitions and Examinations.
For Terms apply "Edgehill," 451 High St., Northcote.

MISS SADIE BROUGHTON, A.T.C.L. (Associate Trinity College, London) PIANOFORTE, HARMONY, SINGING.
Pupils prepared Exams. and Competitions. Last year Miss RUBY GROVES and Miss Ida Johnson passed Senior Honours, Trinity College, London, and Miss Nellie Anderson, Junior. 1907—In Competitions gained 10 firsts & 5 seconds, amongst whom Miss Ruby Groves, my successful Northcote player.
Terms on application—Sutton's, Bourke street, Melbourne; Albert St., Abbotsford.

J. E. RIPPER, PIANO and ORGAN BUILDER.
REPAIRS and TUNINGS a Speciality.
All Work Guaranteed.
Factory—271 Smith Street, Fitzroy.
Private address—6 Martin St., Northcote.

MRS. and MISS WHEELER, Teachers PIANOFORTE, SINGING, &c.
Also accept engagement Concert, Dances (Piano and Violin).
Address: 27 Lawry Street, Northcote.

Wanted to Sell.

BUILDING SAND, coarse or fine; also gravel and first-class garden soil; delivered in all suburbs. A. Strongman, Bell street, South Preston.

Printing! Work of Every Class executed at the LEADER OFFICE

WILLIAM COX, CARRIAGE & MOTOR WORKS

Any make of Buggy, Cart, or Car repaired, painted, re-trimmed, etc., equal to new.

VEHICLES OF ANY STYLE BUILT TO ORDER.

Post cards and messages—**Phone 109** Brunswick—promptly attended to.

ADDRESS:—
High & Westgarth Streets, Northcote.
Private Address—"Glenby Villa," 6 Herbert St.

Educational.

MISS EVELINE ROBERTS Receives and Visits Pupils for ELOCUTION.
(Registered by the Teachers and Schools Registration Board.)
CLASSES held at Bradford Hall, Preston, Guild Hall, Thornbury, Rechabite Hall, Yarraville.
Terms at Gladstone Street, Northcote.

MISS MAY WILKINSON, TEACHER of ELOCUTION,
Receives Pupils at "Urangeline," High Street, Northcote.
Terms on application.

Westleigh College (1886).
MICHAEL ST., NORTH FITZROY. and HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
Principals: MISSES WESTGARTH, assisted by University Staff (visiting and Resident).
KINDERGARTEN TO JUNIOR PUBLIC.
CLASSES for Music, Singing, Drawing, Painting, Elocution, Gymnastics, Dancing.
Boarders' residence, High St., Northcote close to tram and train (Heidelberg line). Large grounds, tennis court, poultry, cow.
TERMS: Day Pupils, 15/- to 3 guineas; Boarders, 10 to 15 guineas. All terms equal length. Pupils entering during term charged accordingly.
Dressmaking Class, Wednesday Afternoon; 12 lessons 1 guinea.

KING'S COLLEGE, CLIFTON HILL (near Northcote Bridge).
5 minutes from Heidelberg and Clifton Hill Trains, also Northcote Trams.
Principal: G. COCHRANE, B.A., T.C.D., &c.
Vice Principal: T. COCHRANE (Melb. Univ.), Assisted by Visiting Staff.
20 acre Play Ground. Gymnasium.
Fees: 1½ to 3½ Guineas.

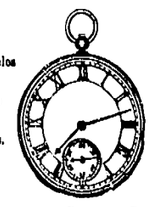
Austral Business & Coaching College
HAS REMOVED to 195 LITTLE COLLINS STREET (back of George's).
Rooms built specially to comply with requirements of BOARD OF HEALTH.
SPLENDID LIGHT & VENTILATION.
5 Scholarships. 5
See Daily Papers.
CLASSES for Public Service and Telegraph Messengers Right through the vacation. Telegraph Messengers, £1 1s till Exam.
Ideal Physical Conditions Trained Teachers.
Call and see the Principal—F. THOMAS, B.A.

MISS FLORENCE E. HODGES, TEACHER of DRAWING and PAINTING
(late Pupil Douglas Richardson, Collins St.)
Terms, 1 Jessie St., South Northcote.

MISS C. GLADSTONE (Gold Medallist), CERTIFICATED TEACHER of PAINTING AND DRAWING,
Desires to intimate that Classes are being formed for Painting (in Oils and Water Colors) and Drawing.
Studio: Corner Rowe and Delbridge Sts., North Fitzroy.
Private address: Rushall Crescent, Nth. Fitzroy.
Evening Classes for Painting and Drawing are held.
Terms on application.

Notices

Wm. Walker, WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLER
32 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE SOUTH.

Spectacles to Suit all Sights.  Watch Glasses and Keys Fitted.

WEDDING AND BIRTHDAY PRESENTS. BROOCH PINS.

F. C. CORNISH & Co., Cash Grocers,
255 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.

70lb. bag best 1A Sugar, 13/
25lb. bag best Flour, 2/4½
Best New Currants, 6½d lb.
" " Sultanas, 7½d lb.
" " Lemon Peel, 6½d
" " Raisins, 6d lb.
Mildura " 4½d lb.
Best soft shell Almonds, 9½d lb.
Raspberry Vinegar, 6d, 10½d, and 1/ bot.
1lb. boxes Muscatel Raisins, 1/ box
Best Preserved Ginger, 7½d lb.
Preserved Pineapples, 5½d tin
" Apricots (Hoadley's), 7½d tin
Hoadley's dark Plum Jam, 5½ t tin
" Tomato Sauce, 5½d bottle
Table Jellies, 10½d doz.
Flavoring Essences, 4½d bottle
Barcelona Nuts, 7½d lb.
Plum Puddings, 10½d, 1/4½, 2/3 tin

P.S.—There is no better place to get your wants supplied than CORNISH'S.

JOHN PHILLIPS, M.R.V.S., VETERINARY SURGEON and EQUINE DENTIST, 88 EASBY ST., COLLINGWOOD.

Open to call at any hour of night or day.
Horse and Cattle Medicines supplied
Phone 1204, City.

Dress and Fashion.

MISS GRINDLAY DRESSMAKER, (Late of George & George), "RAVENNA," DERBY AVENUE, UPPER NORTHCOTE, rear Kimberley Hall.
Evening and Wedding Dresses a Specialty.

Miss E. Bown, DRESSMAKER, "Craglea," corner Robert & Mason Sts., NORTHCOTE SOUTH (near Clarke St).

AFTER Saturday, 20th February, 1909, Miss Bown will carry on Dressmaking at her private address (see above), instead of 94 High St.
A trial solicited. Charges moderate.

Announcements.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR Real Good Footwear?

THEN MRS. POLLOCK'S FEDERAL BOOT SHOP, 529 HIGH ST., UPPER NORTHCOTE,
is the place to get suited.

No matter where you go you cannot get better goods at such prices.

EXTENSIVE STOCK TO CHOOSE FROM.

A TRIAL SOLICITED.

NERO FIDDLES WHILE ROME BURNS.

I suppose he was insured against Fire.

You may fiddle while your HOME BURNS if it is insured in the London Assurance
NO FEAR OF EXTINCTION.
Funds, £4,000,000.
Cr. R. ARCHBOLD, Victorian Manager.
ERNEST LEES, Local Agent

Mrs. Brosnan DESIRES to notify that she has opened TEA ROOMS at 591 HIGH STREET, PRESTON (opposite old library).

Famous I.X.L. Ice Cream. Soft Drinks and Confectionery.

Also Cooked Meats and Small Goods of the very best.

Patronage respectfully solicited.

COOPER'S, HIGH STREET, PRESTON, for ICE CREAM, SUMMER DRINKS, and CONFECTIONERY.

MISS I. THOMPSON, St. George's Rd., Northcote (corner Morley Street), FRUIT, CONECTIONERY, and FANCY GOODS. Fresh Fruit direct from our own orchard at Ardmona.

MISS THOMPSON (same address), DRESSMAKER.

W. NEWMAN, MANUFACTURER OF PLASTER AND CEMENT ORNAMENTS.

No. 223 BEAVER'S ROAD, NORTHCOTE.
Close to St. George's Road.

Established 21 years.

Carl Oldenburg, SADDLE, HARNESS, AND COLLAR MAKER,
365 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE (opposite Brickworks).

Whips, Bits, Sponges, and other Stable Requisites in stock.
Secondhand Harness taken in exchange or bought.
Repairs neatly and promptly executed.

Notice to the Public.

HAVING now purchased the late B. T. JAMES' NURSERY, Union Street, Northcote, I am now prepared to supply at lowest rates—Hardy Ornamental Shade Trees and Plants of all kinds, Climbing and Twining Plants, Plants for Hedges, &c.

ROSE in great variety.

FRUIT TREES of all kinds.

YOU ARE INVITED TO INSPECT

C. J. Jackson, UNION STREET NORTHCOTE.

PLANTS & SEEDLINGS, ROSES, CARNATIONS, &c., at Lowest Prices.

COME and SEE the ROSES in Bloom Everybody welcome.

RAILTON BROS., PRESTON NURSERY, RAGLAN ST., SOUTH PRESTON.

ARTISTIC FLORAL WORK of every description. Also hall and other Decorations.—MISS JACKSON, Clarke St., Northcote.

Business Notices.

TELEPHONE 2006.

A. THARRATT & CO., Furnishing & Builders' Ironmongers,
HIGH & SEPARATION Sts., NORTHCOTE.

PAINTS, Oils, Colors, Leads, Harland's Varnishes, Siennas, Umbers, Hessian, and materials on hand.
Cheapest in Northcote.
Large stock of Brushes, Sash Tools, Oval Ground Calcine, Lime, etc.

COPPERS. We supply the well known Seamless Coppers, made in one piece, never leak.
Also Portable Coppers, complete, with frame, chimney, & grate. From 10 gallon upwards. Cheap
Please inspect.

Authorised Depot for SEWERAGE FITTINGS. Tested.
Bends, Ties, Elbows, Pipes, &c.
WATER PIPE. Galvanised, ½ in. or ¾ in., also fittings for same.
Large stock of Bib Taps, &c.

STOVES, OVENS, GRATES. Latest designs.
Iron Chimneys. Baths, 24 inch gauge iron, very best.
2 Division Wash Troughs, cheap.
"Hobs" Cooking Stoves for wood or coal, economical and durable.
Wire Fencing, Barbed Wire, Netting, for sale, cheap.
24 x 2, 36 x 2, 48 x 2, 72 x 2, all gauges.

GALVANISED IRON, "Redcliff" brand, Best and Cheapest.
Spouting, Ridging, Down Pipes.
Queen's Head Galvanised Plain Iron. 3ft., 2ft. 6in., 2ft. x 24, 26, 28 guage.

THARRATT'S SAW MILL. All kinds of Joinery done for the trade. Sawing, &c.
FIREWOOD. Coke, Coal, Stove Wood, Mixed Blocks at lowest rates.

Houses Furnished.

RENDLE & SONS, 244-246 SMITH STREET, COLLINGWOOD.

80 Diningroom Suites, all prices
70 Bedroom " "
60 Sideboards "

200 Rolls of Linoleums, Oilcloths and Carpets just imported. Splendid Patterns.

We keep Everything in House Furnishing.

CASH or TERMS:
£3 worth for 1/- weekly
£6 " 2/- "
£8 " 2/6 "
£12 " 3/- "
£15 " 3/6 "
£20 " 5/- "

Rendle & Sons 244-246 Smith St., Collingwood
Phone 3887.

E. FELLOWES, COACHBUILDER AND SHOEING FORGE

HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE (Opposite Croxton station).

IF YOU WANT to purchase a cheap & good Vehicle.
IF YOU WANT your Vehicle repaired expeditiously and faithfully.
IF YOU WANT your Horse sent for, shod on the shortest notice and returned.
IF YOU WANT to exchange your old Vehicle.
Call on the above who is prepared to deal liberally with you.
He has one of the largest Coachbuilding Factories in Melbourne and suburbs, a large and efficient staff of workmen and up-to-date plant.
What more can be desired by a customer?

W. WOOLHOUSE & CO., Sheffield Cutlers and Umbrella Manufacturers,
143-145 BOURKE ST. EAST
(Above Russell St.)

LINES BY A LONGFELLOW.

To Woolhouse & Co. I advise you to go,
Umbrellas they make and their prices are low;
Whilst in quality, too, the public still know
No Cutlers here please them like Woolhouse and Co.
In the whole of Melbourne nought better you'll find,
Than their Optical Goods of every kind.
Fine Eye-Glasses they've got to suit people's eyes,
And Goggles to keep out the dust and the flies.
In Spectacles truly none better could be,
They've oft caused the blind, or next to it, to see.
Whilst in Scissors and Razors their stock is immense,
Manufactured by Woolhouse—they'vespared no expense.
Of Knives they have millions of every grade,
From Woolhouse they come—they're the best that are made,
For pocket or vest, large, medium or small,
Just fit for the parlour, the kitchen or hall;
Some are pretty to look at, most beautiful toys,
Nice presents to give to your girls and your boys.
Others have Seventy Blades and cause quite a start [Art.
At the triumph they show in the Cutlery
Don't carve with blunt knives which wives tempers will try,
It will pay you far better now Carvers buy,
Or if you prefer to have them well ground
Then Woolhouse will make the poor cripple quite sound.
At Woolhouse & Co.'s there grinding is done
You'll find them hard at it from rise of the sun;
And the work that you give them—They Never Delay!
Repairing they do in the very best way.
Your Walking Stick broken—neat ferrules [spot they've got,
They mend it and make it all right on the
Your old Umbrella which lets the wet thro',
They'll cover with silk and make Equal to New;
Your Razors, your Shears, your Knives may be found
So blunt that they need to be properly ground,
Then hie you at once to Woolhouse & Co.
For tradesmen are they, and their charges are low.

For Easy & Comfortable Shaving Try Woolhouse's Latest Magnetic Steel Razors.

Printing!

Promptly Executed in the . . . . .
Brightest and Most Effective Style .
At the LEADER office, Northcote! .
Charges Moderate.

Carpenters.

W. Gribble, CARPENTER and JOINER, HOUSE REPAIRER.
231 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE (near Methodist Church).

Saws, Scissors, Razors and Lawn Mowers Set and Sharpened.
Venetian Blinds Painted, Re-Taped and Corded.
Vienna Chairs and Furniture Repaired and Stained like New.
Picture Framing, Fly Wire Doors, and Household Requirements in Wood.

Announcements

PUBLIC NOTICE.

J. McNamara, the old established PRESTON BAKER,

BEGS to announce that he has now OPENED his NEW and UP-TO-DATE BREAD FACTORY in Plenty Road, near corner of Bell Street, where he will be able to serve customers better not only in the matter of the "STAFF OF LIFE," but in all kinds of PASTRY and SMALL GOODS.

A TRIAL SOLICITED.

Alfred Rose, CARRIAGE BUILDER and WHEELWRIGHT,
Has commenced business in HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE, opposite Brickworks.

Vehicles of every description built to order, including Expresses, Abbot Buggies, Jinkers of any design, Bakers' Waggons, Grocers' Carts, and all Trade Vehicles in Latest Style.
First-class Materials and Best Workmanship at Lowest Prices.
A TRIAL SOLICITED.
ALFRED ROSE.

Your Success!
Depends upon the condition of your health and the activity of your mind. You cannot afford to DRINK any but THE BEST of BEVERAGES.
HING'S TEAS
Are ABSOLUTELY the BEST.
The Golden Canister can supply your wants and save your pocket at the same time.
ALL TEAS supplied by W. Q. HING can be relied upon to be THE BEST.
SPECIAL.
ART CHINA in endless variety and unique designs. Suitable for Wedding Presents and Christmas Boxes.
Afternoon Tea Sets from 5/4 49-piece Tea Sets, 13/11.
Wholesale & Retail Depot—
90 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE SOUTH.

FOR CATCHY & UP-TO-DATE PRINTING SEND YOUR ORDERS TO THE Leader Office, NORTHCOTE.

LOON KEE. CHINESE LAUNDRY, 216 High St., Northcote.
Washing and Laundry Orders attended to. Good Workmanship and Polish Guaranteed. Prices Moderate.
White Shirt, ironed and washed, 4d
" ironed only, 3d
Collars ironed only, 9d per doz.
Collar washed and ironed, 1d
Shirts sent for and returned.

FIRST-CLASS CHINESE LAUNDRY
AH HAY, HIGH STREET, THORNBURY (next Best, Draper.

Milk Suppliers.

PRESTON DAIRY, GOWER ST., PRESTON.
M. Walsh, Cowkeeper and Dairyman.
Cattle and Premises under Inspection of the Board of Public Health.
Pure Milk Direct from the Cow to the Consumer. Strippings and One Cow's Milk a Specialty. Absolutely free from coloring matter or preservatives.
No second dealing or with other traders.
Deliveries twice daily in Northcote and surroundings.

F. W. LUPSON NOTIFIES the public that he has purchased and taken over the "ACME" DAIRY, HENRY ST., NORTHCOTE, from which customers can rely upon getting MILK that is ABSOLUTELY PURE the supply being obtained from specially selected herds in the country districts.
A card to the "Acme" Dairy, Helen St. and the carts will call.

IF your business is falling off, do not allow it to drift. ADVERTISE and regain it.

Northcote Leader.

Largest Circulation and Best Advertising Medium in the Northern Districts,
Circulating throughout Northcote, Preston, Thomastown, Epping, Whittlesea, Fairfield, Heidelberg, Clifton Hill

{Registered at the General Post Office, Melbourne, for transmission by post as a Newspaper.} SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 1909. Printed and published by the proprietors, R. J. and J. S. WHALLEY, at their office, 282 High street, Northcote, in the State of Victoria. Price 1d

Mr. Bosisto's "Parrot Brand" Eucalyptus Oil. SOLD EVERYWHERE.

Fruser's Fluid Magnesia

Produce Merchants.

J. A. BOSTOCK,
405 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE,
WISHES to thank his patrons for their past favors, and also to inform them that he sells the best
BOX FIREWOOD
NEWCASTLE COAL,
TASMANIAN COAL,
at Melbourne Prices for Cash.

Cut Green Bone, Victorian Chicken Meal, Pigeon Peas, Canary Seed and Sand, also Shell Grit for Fowls.
All kinds of Produce at Lowest Rates

A. WATSON'S
HAY & CORN STORE
Wood & Coke Yard.
is at
54 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE,
corner Robb's Parade.

Best Wheaten and Oaten Chaff direct from country | Firewood and Coal of all Descriptions
AT LOWEST PRICES.
MIXED BLOCKS (1ft.) by measurement,
2 tons 24/-
1 ton 12/6
½ ton 6/6

A CHEAP FEED, suitable for pigs or poultry, worth inspection.

Announcements

H. C. Saunders,
PRACTICAL
TAILOR,
269 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
Individual tastes and requirements of customers considered.
Moderate charges, coupled with first-class workmanship and fit.
Choice Selection of Suitings Vestings and Trouserings for this season's wear.

REMEMBER
THAT N.
Hansen's Dining Rooms
359 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE,
can always be
RELIED UPON
For Good, Well-Cooked, Appetising Meals
Dinners a Speciality.
On Sale—Butter, Cheese, and general Dairy Produce and also Small Goods of the highest quality.
Good Accommodation for Boarders. Civility and Attention to all
Stabling for Horses.
N.B.—N.H. will always be pleased to see old friends from the country and new ones.

PICTURES
FRAMED
in Up-to-Date and Artistic Style
at
G. H. JACOBS'
255 JOHNSTON STREET, FITZROY
(5 doors west from Smith St).
and at
315 BRUNSWICK STREET.
Enlargements Framed from 2/6.
Wholesale and Retail.

GET YOUR HAIR-CUT & SHAVE
AT
F. SMITH'S
Up-to-Date Hairdressing Saloon,
242 High St., Northcote.
Cleanliness, Civility, Attention.
Razor Setting a Speciality.

J. W. DURANCE,
(late of Catanach's) Watchmaker,
Fifth floor Equitable Buildings, Collins St., City,
Repairs Watches of all kinds,
Sells Reliable Levers, Gold, Silver, Gun Metal.
Private Address: 38 Salisbury grove, Northcote where orders may be left

Undertakers

HENRY J. R. LEWIS,
UNDERTAKER
and
CERTIFICATED EMBALMER,
HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
Head Office:
Corner of Johnston & Hertford Streets,
FITZROY.
H.L. is prepared to conduct Funerals at the lowest possible rates to suit all classes.
Hearses, Mourning Coaches, and Funeral Requisites.
Coffins, all sizes, for country orders.
The Trade supplied.
Telephone 1160.

Sole Patentee of the Disinfecting Coffin for preventing contagion. Established 1866.
W. G. APPS,
UNDERTAKER,
MOOR STREET, FITZROY,
Near Labour-in-Vain Hotel,
And High and Robe Streets, St. Kilda.
Also Branch Burgundy Street, Heidelberg.
Tel. No. 60, Heidelberg Exchange.
Patent and every description of coffin at five minutes' notice.
Hearses, Coaches, &c.

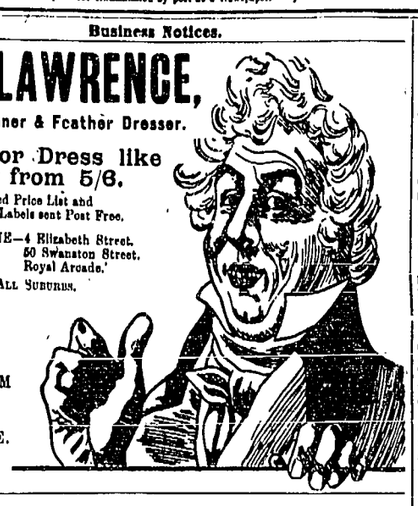
A.N.A. A.W.A.
R. ROBSON,
UNDERTAKER,
CORNER of BRUNSWICK ST. and ST. GEORGE'S ROAD (opposite Cricket Ground),
NORTH FITZROY.
Telephone 1844.
Estab. 47 years.

Established 1854.
ALFRED ALLISON,
UNDERTAKER,
Head Office—231 Victoria St., Tel. 940. WEST MELB.
High Street, Northcote.
Queen's Parade, Clifton Hill
Tel. 3776.
All Funeral arrangements promptly attended to.
Charges Moderate | Terms Arranged

SUCCESS
Awaits the man who keeps his business prominently before the people. The merchant who advertises and tells people who he is, what he is doing, and asks them courteously and persistently for their trade, is the one who will do the most business.

Business Notices.

R. B. LAWRENCE,
Dyer, Cleaner & Feather Dresser.
A Suit or Dress like new from 5/6.
Illustrated Price List and Address Labels sent Post Free.
MELBOURNE—4 Elizabeth Street.
50 Swanston Street.
Royal Arcade.
ALL SUBURBS.
Offices & Works
CUNNINGHAM STREET,
NORTHCOTE.



J. T. COLES & Co., Cash Grocers,
NORTHCOTE, THORNBURY, & PRESTON.

NOTE A FEW OF OUR HOLIDAY PRICES:—

Machine cleaned Currants, 6½d	Xmas Cakes, 1/1, 1/3, 1/4, 2/ tin
" Raisins, 4½d and 5½d	Fruit and Plain Cake, 6d lb.
S. & A. Seeded Raisins, 6½d	Rosella Pears, 9d Rosella Peaches, 8½d
Lemon Peel, 6½d	" Apricots, 7½d " Quinces, 6½d
Table Jellies, 10½d dozen	" Cherries, 8d
Custard Powders, 8½d dozen	Lemon Squash, 6d Lime Juice, 6d
Rice, Mixed, and Coffee Biscuits, 4d lb.	Raspberry Vinegar, 6d and 10½d
New Dates, 4d lb	Oysters, 5½d tin
New Figs, 5d box	Mince Meat, 10½d tin
Plum Puddings, 10½d, 1/4½d, 2/3	Lunch Cakes, 8d each O.T. Punch, 1/

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!
SEND YOUR LINEN TO THE
NORTHCOTE LAUNDRY
HIGH STREET (nearly opposite London Bank).
A VICTORIA HIGH-BOARD IRONING MACHINE USED,
which turns out
Shirts and Collars Equal to New
and Saves Half the Wear and Tear.

Shirts, Washed and Ironed	4d	Collars, Washed and Ironed	1d
" Ironed only	3d	" Ironed only	½d

All Classes of Washing and Ironing done, also MANGLING.
Orders Called for and Delivered. A Trial Solicited.
MRS. FRAWLEY, Proprietress.

Smith & Sons
HAM & BACON CURERS
Small Goods Manufacturers.
NORTHCOTE, Vic.
'Phone 1160.
Champion and First Prize Winners FOR HAMS and BACON AT THE Royal Agricultural Show, MELBOURNE.
Our High-Class Goods
Are Noted Throughout the Commonwealth for their
Savory, Delicious, & Appetising Quality
And are stocked by All Grocers and Dairy Produce Merchants.
Our FRITZ and FRANKFORTS are Just the Thing for the Tea & Breakfast Table.
All Goods Manufactured under the Supervision of the Central Board of Health.
FACTORY AND OFFICE: "MERRIBANK," NORTHCOTE.

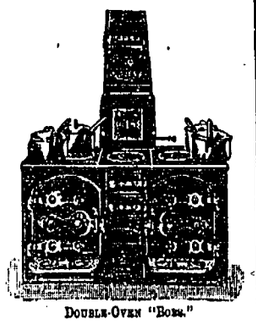
T. KERR,
PASTRYCOOK and CONFECTIONER,
76 and 328 Smith Street,
COLLINGWOOD.

Wedding and Christmas Cakes a Speciality.
Wedding Cakes forwarded to all parts of the State.
REFRESHMENT ROOMS.
Tea and Coffee always ready.

FREE BOOKS!
Over 3000 to select from, including all classes of Literature and Reference Works.
NORTHCOTE PUBLIC LIBRARY,
Town Hall.
Open Every Evening and also on Monday and Friday Afternoons.
Illustrated Australian, English and American Magazines.
Cosy and well-furnished Reading Room.
R. J. WHALLEY, Hon. Sec.

TO Have the Least Possible Expense and the Greatest Comfort in Cooking, use a
"BOBS"
(burns coal or wood)
Made in three sizes—No. 1, 2ft. wide
No. 2, 2ft. 3in. wide
No. 3, 3 ft. wide
Plate Warmers and Boilers can be fitted to either side.
Our many customers testify that "BOBS" is the most up-to-date FUEL SAVER.

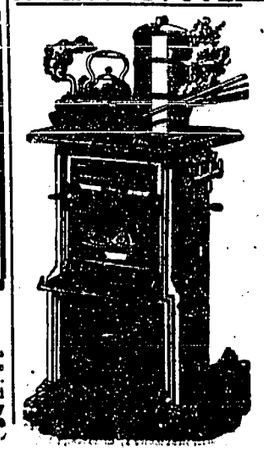
Wallis Bros. & Co.
IRONFOUNDERS and STOVE MANUFACTURERS,
Cramer Street, Preston.
Showroom—410 Bourke Street, Melbourne (opposite Kirk's Bazaar.)



DOUBLE-OVEN "BOBS."

Sole Manufacturers of the Beadle Patent Cast Iron Revolving Washing Copper Frames, suitable for Dairymen, Butchers, and ordinary household use.
Very Durable and Economical. Write for Catalogues.

For the Proper Equipment of a Modern Home,
A GAS STOVE
Is an Absolute Essential.



A GAS STOVE ensures
Excellence in Cookery
at the least possible trouble and expense, also freedom from Soot, Smoke, and Ashes, thereby resulting at all times in a delightfully CLEAN and COOL KITCHEN.
Needs minimum attention. Easily managed, and is a veritable boon to the busy housewife.
Can be obtained on rental from 1/6 per month, or on hire purchase terms. Small deposit and 2/6 per month.
Metropolitan Gas Company,
186 Flinders St., Melbourne.
Tel. Nos. 330, 559, 3743, 7218.

EPPING SHIRE COUNCIL.

MONDAY, MARCH 15.

Present:—Crs. McCoy (president), McCormack, Morgan, Browne, Bodycoat and Dea.

CORRESPONDENCE.

From Department of Public Works intimating that the Governor-in-Council had approved of a grant of £100 towards the maintenance of main roads, the council to spend £100 additional.

The president remarked that they hadn't been doing too bad with these grants.

It was resolved—on the motion Crs. Morgan and McCormack—that the engineer prepare specifications for the maintenance work to be carried out and submit them for the approval of the Department.

From same asking if the carrying out of above or any other municipal works in would be necessary to employ any outside labour. The Minister would also like a report as to the condition of the labour supply and demand in the district generally, and whether any difficulty is experienced by employers in procuring hands required or by work men in procuring employment, through scarcity of men or work.

From Government Statist asking whether the £225 Government endowment appearing in the council's statement of assets was for year 1907 8 or 1908 9.—Information to be supplied.

From chief secretary's office stating that in compliance with the council's request, Tuesday, February 23rd, had been proclaimed a public holiday throughout the shire.

From Education Department asking, with reference to the holiday proclaimed for the 23rd, if the council would be so good as to furnish them with the names of the promoters of the picnic who made application for the holiday, and to state, if possible, in what manner the cost of the excursion is to be met and to what purpose connected with the improvement and welfare of the schools taking part in the picnic, the surplus (if any) is to be applied.

Cr. Dea said he did not think the council was called upon to give any explanation. Better let the matter drop.

Cr. Browne moved that a reply be sent stating that the council were not aware of the names of the promoters, but understood it was a general picnic supported by all the influential residents of the district; that the cost was provided by the sale of tickets; and that any surplus has been held in reserve to help finance, if necessary, other annual picnics.

Cr. Morgan seconded.—Carried.

From Railway Department intimating that after further consideration the Commissioners are still of the opinion that the platform is the most suitable place for the lamp, and they, therefore, regret they are unable to meet the wishes of the council in the matter.—Received.

From A. R. Robertson, M.L.A., forwarding letter from Railway Department intimating that the Commissioners had approved of a caretaker being placed in charge of the Thomastown station.—Received as satisfactory, Mr. Robertson to be thanked for his efforts in connection with the matter.

From city of Collingwood asking that two delegates be appointed to attend meeting to consider desirability of asking the Government to permanently reserve for a National Park certain lands bordering on the Yarra river.

The president and Cr. Morgan was appointed to attend.

From Board of Directors, A.N.A., asking that this council should support local industries in municipal contracts—Councillors generally were of opinion that the hint in their case was unnecessary, as they always procured everything they could locally.

From John Cliff and Sons, calling attention to the dangerous and almost impassable state of Craigieburn road leading from their entrance to the new Moonar bridge. They hoped the work would be done at once, as they wished to do some carting on the road.—To be dealt with under the engineer's report.

From Robert Young, trusting that something would be done to improve the road leading to his place, as same was almost impassable.

From Mary Hearn, applying for the use of the shire hall on the 7th May to hold a ball in aid of St. Vincent's Hospital—Granted.

From Jas. Patterson, forwarding balance-sheet in connection with St. John's Church harvest festival. The receipts were £18/8/8, and the expenditure £3/6/9.

From Dr. Wilkinson, health officer, reporting that during last year there were in the shire—Births, 23; deaths, 4. No deaths from contagious disease, violence, or under 5 years. Such being the case he had no further recommendations to make.

Cr. McCormack moved and Cr. Morgan seconded that the report be received, and a copy sent to the Central Board of Health.

From M. Keating, stating that he had been threatened by Patrick Murphy with prosecution for taking stone from the quarry reserve. He would like to know if the council had permission to quarry stone for their own roads.

Cr. McCormack said he understood that the Department had given them permission to get stone from the quarries for their own roads but not to sell. He moved that the Lands Department be written to asking whether this was so or not.

Cr. Morgan seconded.—Carried.

FINANCE.

The treasurer reported that the receipts for the month had amounted to £190 13s 1d. Present Dr. balance, £538 19s 9d.

Accounts for the month, amounting to £54 2s 9d were passed for payment, on the motion of Crs. Morgan and McCormack.

ENGINEER'S REPORT.

1. Recommended the gravelling of Glenburnie road as soon as funds were available, as the road was much cut up since the dry weather.

Cr. Browne said he thought they should try and carry out this recommendation. They were complaining up at Eden Park that very little was done up that way. He moved that the engineer endeavour to get the material from Whittlesea shire to do the work and failing that, that the daymen put the road in order.

Cr. McCormack seconded. Carried.

2. A swampy portion of Mason's lane requires raising up for a length of 10 chains.

Cr. McCormack moved that 40 yards of 4 inch metal and 60 yards of 2½ inch metal be provided for Mason's lane.

Cr. Browne seconded. He could testify that the expenditure of about £25 was badly needed and fully justified on the road.

The motion was carried.

3. A portion of Craigieburn road, near the new bridge should also be re-graded for about 4 chains.

Cr. Morgan moved that tenders be called for the work as recommended. Cr. Dea seconded. Carried.

4. The road north of Bindt's lane leading to Mr. R. Young's, 13 chains requires metalling in three portions.

Cr. Morgan moved that tenders be called for this work.

The president seconded. Carried.

4. Re grant of £100 for main road would recommend that the metal for Chapel road be transferred to the main road so that the whole of the grant might be claimed.—Adopted.

5. Whitlesea is about to have a plan of the shire printed, and he would suggest that a map of the two shires conjoined be made. The total cost would be £6, half to each council, 50 copies of plan to each.

Cr. McCormack moved that the suggestion be adopted. Cr. Dea seconded. Carried.

TENDERS.

Supply of 60 cubic yards of bluestone metal in Cemetary road, east from Main road.—Cr. Morgan moved and Cr. Dea seconded that the tender of John Brazil at 3/3 per yard be accepted.—Carried.

APPOINTMENT OF POUNDKEEPER.

The only application for the position of poundkeeper was that of William Boyle. Cr. Morgan moved and Cr. Dea seconded that the application be accepted. Carried.

It was decided to write to the retiring poundkeeper asking him to hand over the books to the new officer.

PAYMENT FOR FEVER HOSPITAL PATIENTS.

Cr. Morgan moved that Mr. Bindt be written to asking that he pay something towards the cost of treatment of his child at the Fever Hospital and for which the council had received an account for over £20.—Carried.

IMPROVED TRAIN SERVICE.

Crs. McCormack and Dea were appointed to confer with representatives of South Morang and Whittlesea with a view of bringing about a better train service.

NORTHCOTE TOWN COUNCIL.

MONDAY, MARCH 15.

Present:—All members, Cr. Plant in the chair.

RETICULATION OF STREETS.

The Metropolitan Board of Works wrote intimating that the revenue derivable did not warrant an extension of the water supply to Dundas street. A similar reply was received with reference to the extension of mains in Ballantyne, Leinster, and Lewis streets.—Referred to public works committee.

APPLICATION FOR USE OF PENDER'S PARK.

Trinity football club wrote applying for permission to use the Pender's grove park as a football ground.—Referred to park committee.

NORTHCOTE FOOTBALL CLUB.

The secretary of the club wrote stating that he had applied to the park committee for permission to remove all goods belonging to the club, but not having received any reply he had been directed to ask the council for permission to remove their property as early as possible.—Received, and the club to be informed that the council has no power to comply with the request.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

Cr. Hayes (chairman) submitted the report, recommending:—

1. That the following accounts, amounting to £287 8s 5d, be paid.—Adopted.

2. Street construction.—That the following street, not having been formed, paved, or otherwise made good to the satisfaction of the council, the town surveyor be directed to prepare the necessary plans, &c., and the amounts chargeable to each owner and any other particulars necessary or expedient, viz:—Gadd street.—Adopted.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Cr. Plant (chairman), submitted the report, recommending:—

1. That accounts amounting to £828 13s 5d, including £287 8s 5d public works, be passed for payment.—Adopted.

2. J. Horne re alleged accident. That no further action be taken in the matter.—Adopted.

3. Stormwater sewer.—That as the works have nearly been completed application be made to the council of the Shire of Preston for the amount of its proportion of the cost of the works.—Adopted.

4. Cattle enclosure.—That a notice be published in the "Leader" and also posted on the land of the council at High and Roberts streets, intimating that such land has been fixed by the council as the proper enclosure for the safe custody of cattle seized by its officers.—Adopted.

5. Meat inspector's report.—Reporting that he has examined and branded 35 pigs and 165 calves and cattle between the 8th February and 8th inst. Also a further report on an inspection of all butchers' and cooked meat shops which he found in good order.—Adopted.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

1. Tramway engineer.—That Mr. H. Dawson be hereby appointed as tramway engineer at a salary at the rate of £50 per annum, subject to the conditions of appointment, and he be hereby authorised to enforce the conditions of the lease with Mr. F. W. Meakin and Mrs. L. Thomas for the running, maintenance, renewal, &c., of the council's tramway.—Adopted.

2. Messrs Gillott and Moir, re settlement of accounts with the late tram lessee, Mr. S. I. Dorum.—That the sum of £550 be paid to him without prejudice to the council's rights under the lease. The other moneys in hand to be held pending a final settlement as to further repairs. The town solicitor to pay over the amount and obtain a proper clearance therefor.—Adopted.

3. That objections be heard to the plans of Normanby avenue, from the railway to St. George's road, part of St. Clair avenue and part of Rayment street, plan 472; part of Gotch street, from Victoria road to Leonard street, plan 353; on 20th day of April, 1909, at 8 p.m., at the council chambers, High street, Northcote.—Adopted.

Standing orders were suspended and the following accounts passed:—Tram deposit, refund, £500; A. Blanch, £4 4s; stone-breakers' wages, £2 2s 6d.

ORDINARY BUSINESS.

Cr. Candy moved that application be made to have the water mains laid in Mary and Robinson streets.—Carried.

Cr. Candy moved that the matter of fixing backs to the seats at the rookeries in High street be referred to the engineer to report as to cost.—Carried.

Cr. Smith stated that the fire plugs in the several wards required to be more clearly indicated, and moved that the matter be referred to the engineer for report.—Carried.

Cr. Smith moved that the public works committee authorise the asphalting of the footpath between High street and Buttler street.—Carried.

Cr. Harry moved that a further letter be written to the Metropolitan Fire Board requesting that additional fire alarms be provided in the north ward.—Carried.

Cr. Tharratt moved that steps be taken to acquire a strip of land in the west ward on the south side of Aberdeen street which would be required for drainage purposes.—Carried.

Cr. Plant moved that the opening up of Derby street be referred to the public works committee for report.—Carried.

Cr. Plant moved that a row of stones be substituted for the box proposed to be placed round the trees on Rucker's hill. The cost would be about the same and the stones would have a much better appearance.—Carried.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

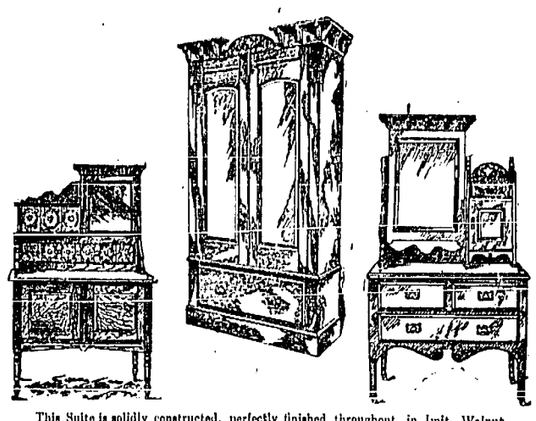
Treatment of consumptive patients, clause deferred.—That the Board of Public Health be requested to supply the council with a return as to the results of the treatment of consumptive patients admitted to sanatoriums from the Town of Northcote, whether cured, improved, or otherwise.—Clause deferred.

W. Kitson,
PAINTER AND PAPERHANGER,
84 Charles Street,
NORTHCOTE SOUTH.
Superior Workmanship and none but the best materials used.
Estimates Given.
Rooms Papered with Art Paper from £1.
Those contemplating getting their houses renovated cannot do better than consult the above.

Business Notices.

SPECIAL BEDROOM SUITE

SPECIAL VALUE



SPECIAL PRICE

This Suite is solidly constructed, perfectly finished throughout, in Imit. Walnut or Light wood, consisting of 4ft. Wardrobe with 2 bevelled plate glass doors & large drawer, 3ft. 6in. Toilet Table with massive bevelled plate mirror, cupboard with glass door and three large drawers; 3ft. 6in. washstand, marble top and tile back, with bevelled plate mirror and shelf.
We supply this Suite complete or in separate pieces.
SPECIAL PRICE for ONE MONTH ONLY, £12.

CLAUSCEN & CO.
194-6 Bourke St., Melbourne.

MOA CYCLES
For price, quality, and neatness in design we defy competition.
All joints are double-butted in the No. 1 as in the Moa Special.
We give a ten years' guarantee to replace any part of a Moa Cycle frame or forks found defective or if broken.
No. 1, £8 10/-. No. 2, £10 10/-. All Accessories Free.
The Moa Special, £14 10/. We ask you to compare this model with any make of cycle in Victoria, and will refund money if better value can be obtained.
B.S.A. Cycles, £12 10/.
Large stock of Covers and Tubes, all makes, at Lowest Prices. Repairs to any make of cycle.
Merson's, 218 High St., Northcote.

L. G. GODLEY,
UPHOLSTERER,
531 HIGH ST., THORNBURY.
HAVING purchased the stock of Mr. S. DEVENPORT,
Painter, of 563 High St., Thornbury
I am prepared to sell Oils, Paints, Varnish, White Lead, Methylated Spirits, Turps, Benzine, &c., at lowest market prices.
GLASS CUT TO SIZE.

Estate Agents

TOWN HALL ESTATE AGENCY.
W. Freebairn & Co.
(SWORN VALUER),
HOUSE & LAND
Agents,
HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
Houses for Sale—small deposit; balance as rent.
Rents Collected. Insurances Effected.
Loans Negotiated.
Commissions executed.
Valuations made. Auction Sales arranged.
Agents for the Manchester Fire Assurance

Membrey & Deane
(J. O. MEMBREY—J. V. DEANE),
Estate, Financial & Insurance Agents,
Accountants, &c.,
HAVE much pleasure in informing the general public they have commenced business at York Buildings, 43 Queen St., Melbourne.
Mr Membrey has had a lengthened experience as a municipal valuer and is also a sworn valuer under the Transfer of Land Act.
Mr. Deane has had over 17 years' experience with two leading city firms of solicitors.
Fire and Life Insurance a speciality.
Large and small sums of trust monies to lend. Loans negotiated on usual terms.
All business placed in the hands of the above firm will receive prompt attention.

Nurse Phillips,
CERTIFICATED MIDWIFE,
HAS Vacancies for Ladies during Accouchment. Fees, £3 3/. Every home comfort, doctor if required. Patients admitted any hour.
Outdoor cases attended. Fee, £1.
"St. Hellers,"
Merri St., Northcote (near P.O.)

Private Hospital,
22 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE SOUTH
(3 doors from Walker St).
ALL Patients carefully treated. Outside Cases visited. Doctor if desired.
MIDWIFERY AND SURGICAL.
MRS. SPARROW,
Women's Hospital, Melbourne.
Reg. R.V.T.N.A. Terms Moderate.

NURSE ROKEHERST ROBERTS,
Certificates Melbourne and Women's Hospitals,
14 NORMANBY AVENUE, UPPER NORTHCOTE.
Correspondence invited.

IF YOUR
WATCH
DOES NOT KEEP TIME
TAKE IT TO
GEO. H. ARMFIELD,
133 SMITH STREET, COLLINGWOOD
(next to Foy & Gibson's).
Satisfaction Guaranteed.
SPECTACLES to SUIT ALL SIGHTS.

A. SANGUINETTI,
THE OLDEST-ESTABLISHED
HOUSE DECORATOR & PAINTER
IN THE DISTRICT.
Estimates Given for all kinds of House Repairs.
ON SALE—
Paperhangings
from 2½d per roll.
Dry Colors from 2d lb., 7 lbs. for 1/-.
Artists' Materials, Alabastine, Leads, Oils, Stainers' Varnishes, Plain & Fancy Glass, &c
Special Concessions to the Trade.
Muranese Glass cut to Size from 10d per foot.
Address: 347 High Street, Northcote
Close to Tramway Penny Section).

To know a good job, have a good job done by
D. B. MASSON,
DECORATOR
Paperhanger, Grainer, Glazier, Signwriter.
IF you have not time to call on me let me call on you about those renovations when you can have the benefit of my London and Edinburgh experience.
Don't wait to see how so and so have their house done. Come right away and I will show you the latest designs and methods.
Country orders have our special attention and work carried through without delay or inconvenience to occupants.
Only respectable, reliable TRADESMEN employed.
212 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.

FARMERS AND GRAZIERS
Of Preston & Epping shires.
PLEASE NOTE!
—THAT—
T. HERLEY & CO.,
Woolscourers, &c.,
Oakover Rd., South Preston,
ARE CASH BUYERS OF
WOOL AND SKINS.
Highest Price Paid. No Commissions Charged.
Write or Call if you have Anything to Sell—*it will pay you.*
T HERLEY & CO., South Preston.

Established 20 years.
W. FIRTH
GENERAL DRAPER,
344 SMITH STREET,
COLLLINGWOOD
(Below Johnston St).

Northcote (Free & Circulating) LIBRARY
Open Every Night from 7 till 10; also on Monday and Friday afternoons from 2 till 5.
SPLENDID COLLECTION of BOOKS.
Subscription Fee of 2s 6d per quarter enables the Reader to take books home.
R. J. WHALLEY, Hon. Sec

Tailors

INCE BROS.,
TAILORS & OUTFITTERS.
NEW SPRING GOODS.
NEW SPRING GOODS.
NEW SPRING GOODS.
Suits from £3 3/-; Trousers from 15/6.
If we do not please you, tell us; if we do please you, tell others.
174 SWANSTON ST., MELBOURNE.

IF YOU are are looking for a really good stylish Suit, write at once to
"OUR TAILORS,"
VEREY & CROSS,
242 SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD,
Where you get a fashionably-cut and serviceable Suit at bed-rock prices. Every article made on the premises by experienced workmen and under personal supervision.
Country orders attended to with utmost despatch.
Don't forget the only address—
"Our Tailors,"
VEREY & CROSS,
242 SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD.

Tailor & Mercer,
PLENTY RD. & GARNET STS.,
SOUTH PRESTON.
Arch. Wilkinson,
Ladies' & Gentlemen's Tailor.
NEW GOODS for the Coming Season Just Arrived.
STRAW HATS a Speciality.
Latest Shades and Shapes in Soft & Hard Felt Hats.
A Large Assortment of Shirts, Ties, and Hosiery of every description.
Have a Look at our Window Display.
LADIES' COSTUMES A SPECIAL STUDY.

J. G. Alston,
PRACTICAL TAILOR,
324 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE
(late Smith St. and City.)
Fit and Style Guaranteed.
Prices to Suit all Pockets. Suits from 35/-
Trousers, 10/6 upwards.
TRIAL SOLICITED.

A. RAYMOND,
Practical
TAILOR and MERCER,
HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE,
opposite Town Hall,
HAS a Splendid Variety of NEW GOODS at PRICES to SUIT ALL CUSTOMERS.
A PERFECT FIT is GUARANTEED and the STYLE is UP-TO-DATE.

Announcements

W. T. ROWE
(Over 17 years with F. Yann, also large English experience),
COACHBUILDER, WHEELWRIGHT, and GENERAL BLACKSMITH,
Corner of HIGH and DUNDAS STS.
UPPER NORTHCOTE
(opposite Tram Terminus, Preston).
Buggies, Jinkers, Waggons, Drays, and Carts of every description built on the most reasonable terms.
Repairs Promptly Executed.
Vehicles Bought, Sold, and Exchanged.
Horses Carefully Shod, called for and and Returned.
Best Materials Used. All Work Guaranteed.

FARMERS!
Take your Hay to
C. Wilkinson's
NEW
Chaffcutting Works,
HIGH STREET, PRESTON
(near Shire Hall).
Having had large experience C.W. is confident of being able to give all who entrust him with their cutting the greatest satisfaction.
CHARGES MODERATE.
The trade supplied with chaff, also customers in lots of not less than half-ton.

Plumbers.

PUBLIC NOTICE.
J. DENYER,
LICENSED PLUMBER & GASFITTER, TINSMITH & IRONWORKER,
Next Wesleyan Schoolroom,
232 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE
Water Meters Fixed and Repaired.
Gas and Water Laid On
Estimates Given for General Repairs.

To Landlords, Householders and Builders.
Edwards & Howard,
Licensed
PLUMBERS, GASFITTERS,
Mechanical and Electric Bell Hangers, Steam, Hot, and Cold Water Engineers and Sanitary Plumbers,
Guarantee All Work for Twelve Months.
Gas & Water laid on. Estimates submitted Work promptly executed.
Corner High and Clarke Streets, NORTHCOTE.

Does Your
WATER-PIPE LEAK
GAS-PIPE LEAK!
ROOF LEAK!
S. McDOUGALL,
LICENSED PLUMBER,
Next Railway,
NORMANBY AVENUE,
NORTHCOTE,
WILL SEE MATTERS RIGHT—
Promptly—Reliably—Cheaply.
Water Meters Fixed. Gas & Water laid on

For Sale.

FIRST-CLASS Garden Soil (rich, black loam) for Sale.—J. Milot, Beaver's rd., Northcote.

Church Notices

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, NORTHCOTE.

Sunday Services:
Rev. A. C. KELLAWAY, M.A., morn- and evening.
Collections for Clergy Provident Fund.
Prize Distribution and Bioscope Display, Monday at 8 p.m.

HOLY TRINITY, THORNBURY.

Fourth Sunday in Lent.
8 a.m., Holy Communion.
11 a.m., Matins and Litany with Sermon.
7 p.m., Choral Evensong and Sermon.

INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, TOWN HALL, NORTHCOTE

Rev. HECTOR FERGUSON, Minister.
Morning—Special subject.
Evening—"Materialization shedding light on Scripture."
Members and friends attend morning service

NORTHCOTE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (JAMES ST.)

Sabbath Services:
Rev. R. W. ROCK, morning and evening.

NORTHCOTE METHODIST CHURCH

S.S. ANNIVERSARY. (continued).
Morning, Rev. E. T. COX.
Evening, Rev. R. DITTERICH.
Evening, Rev. T. ALDAY.
Strangers warmly welcomed.

NORTHCOTE BAPTIST CHURCH, Kimberley Hall, Darebin Road.

Morning, Pastor T. NICHOLS.
Evening, Rev. F. J. WILKIN, M.A (for Home Society).

PRINCE OF WALES' PARK METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday Services:
Morning, Mr. C. SPENCER.
Evening, Rev. J. NALL.
All Seats Free. Strangers welcomed.

PRESTON CHURCH OF CHRIST, Bradford Hall, High St.

Preacher, Mr. F. J. GOODWIN.
Ladies invited Wednesdays at 2.30 p.m. Try and come.
All welcome. No collection.

PRESTON METHODIST SABBATH School.—Anniversary Services To-Morrow (Sunday, 21st March). Preachers:—Rev. H. Saloway, President of Conference, at 11, Rev. C. C. Dugan at 3, Rev. S. J. Hoban, of Central Mission, at 7. Annual Tea Meeting and Distribution of Prizes, Wednesday, 24th. Tickets for Tea—Adults 1/, Scholars 6d.

SOUTH PRESTON METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday Services:
Morning, Mr. THORPE.
Evening, Mr. BALLAM.
Bright singing. All welcome.

SALVATION ARMY, MITCHELL ST., NORTHCOTE.

Sunday, 21st March.
Meetings at 7 and 11 a.m., 3 and 7 p.m.
All are welcome.

Educational.

MISS EVELINE ROBERTS
Receives and Visits Pupils for
ELOCUTION.
(Registered by the Teachers and Schools Registration Board.)
CLASSES held at Bradford Hall, Preston, Guild Hall, Thornbury, Rechabite Hall, Yarraville.
Terms at Gladstone Street, Northcote.

MISS MAY WILKINSON,
TEACHER of ELOCUTION,
Receives Pupils at "Urangeline," High Street, Northcote.
Terms on application.

Westleigh College
(1886).
MICHAEL ST., NORTH FITZROY, and HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
Principals: MISSES WESTGARTH, assisted by University Staff (visiting and Resident).
KINDERGARTEN TO JUNIOR PUBLIC.
CLASSES for Music, Singing, Drawing, Painting, Elocution, Gymnastics, Dancing.
Boarders' residence, High St., Northcote close to tram and train (Heidelberg line). Large grounds, tennis court, poultry, cow.
TERMS: Day Pupils, 15/- to 3 guineas; Boarders, 10 to 15 guineas. All terms equal length. Pupils entering during term charged accordingly.
Dressmaking Class, Wednesday Afternoon; 12 lessons 1 guinea.

KING'S COLLEGE,
CLIFTON HILL
(near Northcote Bridge).
5 minutes from Heidelberg and Clifton Hill Trains, also Northcote Trams.
Principal:
G. COCHRANE, B.A., T.C.D., &c.
Vice-Principal:
T. COCHRANE (Melb. Univ.), Assisted by Visiting Staff.
20 acre Play Ground. Gymnasium.
Fees: 1½ to 3½ Guineas.

Austral Business & Coaching College
HAS REMOVED
to
195 LITTLE COLLINS STREET
(back of George's).
Rooms built specially to comply with requirements of
BOARD OF HEALTH.
SPLENDID LIGHT & VENTILATION.
5 Scholarships. 5
See Daily Papers.
CLASSES
for
Public Service and Telegraph Messengers
Right through the vacation.
Telegraph Messengers, £1 1s till Exam.
Ideal Physical Conditions
Trained Teachers.
Call and see the Principal—
F. THOMAS, B.A.

MISS FLORENCE E. HODGES,
TEACHER of DRAWING and PAINTING
(late Pupil Douglas Richardson, Collins St.)
Terms, 1 Jessie St., South Northcote.

MISS C. GLADSTONE
(Gold Medallist),
CERTIFICATED TEACHER
of
PAINTING AND DRAWING,
Desires to intimate that Classes are being formed for Painting (in Oils and Water Colors) and Drawing.
Studio: Corner Rowe and Delbridge Sts., North Fitzroy.
Private address: Rushall Crescent, Nth. Fitzroy.
Evening Classes for Painting and Drawing are held.
Terms on application.

Accountancy.

ERNEST J. NEILSON,
ACCOUNTANT, BOOK KEEPER, and AUDITOR.
Books opened and kept (single and double entry).
Balance-Sheets prepared.
Accounts Adjusted.
Income Tax Schedules Compiled.
Fifteen years' experience Commercial and Banking Methods.
Terms Arranged.
14 Lawry St., Northcote.

JOHN PHILLIPS,
M.R.V.S.,
VETERINARY SURGEON
and
EQUINE DENTIST,
88 EASEY ST., COLLINGWOOD.
Open to call at any hour of night or day.
Horse and Cattle Medicines supplied
Phone 1201, City.

Societies

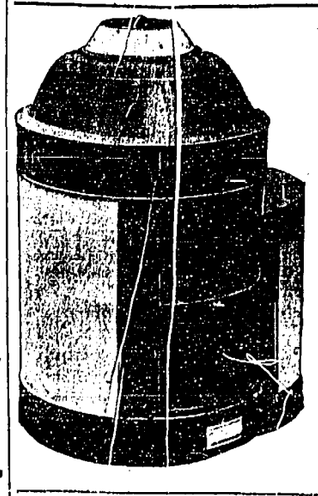
A.N.A.
AUSTRALIAN NATIVES!
Join the Northcote branch. Meetings held on alternate Thursday evenings, Town Hall, Westbourne Grove.
Interesting Syllabus arranged. Essays, Debates, Shooting Competitions, Harmony, &c., &c. The public invited to each meeting.
Low Contributions for Benefit Members. Funds rapidly increasing.
Next meeting—25th March.
Quoits, Games, &c.
H. F. BATTEN, Sec., Westbourne grove.

Independent Order of Rechabites.
Star of Northcote Tent No. 217.
MEETINGS held at Rechabite Hall every alternate Thursday
Next Meeting—1st April.
Juveniles meet every alternate Friday.
BENEFITS—
Sick Pay—For 12 months, £1 a week. Following 6 months, 10/- a week. Afterwards during sickness, 5/- a week.
Funeral—£20 at death of member. £15 at death of member's wife (if insured).
FEES—
Benefit members, 1/- week upwards.
Honorary members, 1/- quarter.
Proposition Fee, 2/6.
J. NEWNHAM, Secretary.

Mrs. Holland,
118-120-122
SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD.
Special Bargains in Millinery.
GREAT REDUCTIONS.
Trimmed Hats from 4/11.

THE PRESTON PHARMACY.
W. G. FEGENT
(late with Ford & Co., Toorak),
Successor to J. SLADE,
Pharmaceutical & Dispensing Chemist
257 HIGH STREET, PRESTON.
The Dispensing of Physicians' Prescriptions is a special branch of the Pharmacy. The greatest care is taken in the selection and testing of drugs. All dispensing is checked to ensure accuracy.
NOTE.
Records kept of all prescriptions dispensed since the establishment of the business in 1888.
HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES.

BOOTS MADE FOR YOU!
We Make Direct for the People.
Our Factory is manned with first-class labor and we use only good solid leather, consequently we can give to our customers a boot better in quality and lower in price than can be got elsewhere.
Our Patent Unbreakable Back Boot
(made only by us)
SPEAKS FOR ITSELF BY THE THOUSANDS WE SELL.
Our Prices for them now are:
Men's Box Derby Bals., 8/11
Men's knock-about Bals., 8/6
Youths' Box, strong wear, 1 to 5, 6/6
Boys' Box, strong wear, 10 to 13, 4/11
Youths' strong leather, 1 to 5, 4/11
Boys' strong leather, 10 to 13, 4/6
Many splendid-value lines in ordinary backs also.
All Lines to Measure at Retail Price
Boots sent to all parts of the country.
Bring your old boots to be made new. Repairs a leading factor
DIMMICK, Manufacturer & Retailer
245 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.



T. E.
REDMOND,
Ironmonger, Crockery, Oil & Color Merchant,
410 High St., Northcote
Hanging Meat Safes.
Square and round.
One Quality—THE BEST.
4/6, 5/6, 6/9, 7/11, 9/6, 9/11 and 10/11.
Kerosene Stoves, 3/6, 4/11, 15/, 24/, &c.
Water Cans—Green, 1/, 1/4, 1/6, 1/11, 2/6, and 2/9.
Water Cans—Galvanised, 1/11, 2/3, 2/11, 3/3, 3/6, 4/11, &c.
Wire Window Screens, fit any window, 2/11.
Best Wire Doors, 8/11 and 10/11.
Fly Wire, Green and Galvanised, cheap.
½ inch Hose, 6d per foot.
Telephone 312 (Brunswick).

WILLIAM COX,
CARRIAGE & MOTOR WORKS
Any make of Buggy, Cart, or Car repaired, painted, re-trimmed, etc., equal to new.
VEHICLES OF ANY STYLE BUILT TO ORDER.
Post cards and messages—**Phone 109 Brunswick**—promptly attended to.
ADDRESS:—
High & Westgarth Streets, Northcote.
Private Address—"Girsby Villa," 5 Herbert St.

The Leader
JUSTICE TO ALL
Published Every Saturday Morning.
SATURDAY, MARCH 20.

In the passing out of Mayor Tharratt goes One of the best mayors Northcote ever had—a doer of things as distinguished from a mere talker of them. During his term he brought matters to a conclusion that had been played battledore & shuttlecock with for years. Public men of this stamp are rare, and therefore hard to spare. He has put his whole heart into his work and no man has ever made greater sacrifice of his time, his energy, and his means while in the mayoral position. It is a thousand pities that such a record should have been cut short by unpleasantness.

At the conclusion of the Northcote town council's business on Monday night the ex-mayor (Cr. Tharratt) had a pleasing task to perform. It was the presentation, on behalf of the ratepayers of Northcote, of an enlarged and speaking portrait of ex-Cr. Hastings, and in the regrettable absence of their esteemed colleague he asked Cr. Hastings to accept the gift and convey it to his grandfather. Cr. Tharratt remarked that they all very deeply regretted to learn that their good old friend was dangerously ill. Ex-Councillor Hastings, as they all know, was an exemplary councillor and did his duty faithfully and honorably under all circumstances. To him (Cr. Tharratt) he had been a guide, philosopher and friend. Cr. McIntosh expressed his sorrow with the low condition of their old and esteemed colleague and hoped that he would rally sufficiently to allow him to move amongst them again. Cr. Plant said he was certain that every councillor would sincerely endorse what had been said. Cr. Hastings said that the circumstances would not permit him to accept the gift with pleasure, but he could assure councillors that he appreciated very highly their kindness, as expressed in their gift and in their sympathetic expressions. Ex Cr. Hastings had desired him to express his deep gratification and sincere thanks for the honor and kindness they had shown to him since he resigned the office of councillor. For his own part he hoped that his grandfather would rally again and be spared to enjoy the rest he had so well earned.

The Northcote Mosquito.—The following opinion of the Northcote mosquito, given by one who has recently settled in the town in the form of an excuse for a child's non-attendance at school is interesting:—"Dear Miss —— We kept —— at home yesterday (16th) because she was badly marked with mosquito bites. This is the first time they (the mosquitoes) have had such a bad effect on her. The Gippsland variety is not so venomous; at any rate, they did not mark her in the same way that the Northcote mosquito has done. Up there they get a drink from a pure stream of water in the creeks and gullies; down here there is nothing but the Merri Creek to drink. This, in my opinion, accounts for the different effect of their bites."

There were between twenty and thirty gentlemen present at the meeting convened by the president of the shire (Cr. Alichin) to make arrangements for a suitable "send off" to Lieut. Colonel Braithwaite on the occasion of his departure for England at the end of the month. It was unanimously decided to tender the Colonel a smoke concert at the Shire-hall on Friday evening next, 26th inst., when it is expected that a large and representative gathering will be present. The following were appointed a sub committee to make the necessary arrangements, viz., Crs. Allchin (chairman), Howe, Wilkinson, the Rev. Geo. Carson, and Messrs I. Barrow, H. C. Hanna, J. Lang, J. S. Whalley, Strable, and G. H. Hamilton (hon. sec.)

The committee of the Preston Children's Seaside Excursion held their final meeting at the shire hall on Tuesday evening, the president (Cr. Allchin) in the chair. The hon. treasurer (Mr. C. Showers) presented a balance-sheet (published elsewhere) showing that the total receipts, inclusive of a balance carried forward from last year of £22 0s 8d were £126 10s 1d, which included donations amounting to £45 5s 3d. The net expenditure was £110 2s 8d, the principal items being—Railway Department, £52 8s 5d; refreshments, £13 18s 10d; and sports and amusements £11 9s 6d. A balance is left in hand of £16 7s 5d. There were general congratulations on the success of the picnic and the customary hearty vote of thanks was tendered to the chairman, secretary and all other workers.

The second annual ball under the auspices of the Preston Branch H.A.C.B.S. was held at the shire hall on Wednesday evening, 17th inst. (St. Patrick's night). There was a fine gathering of young people present—about 80 couples—and all appeared to be deriving the fullest measure of enjoyment, as well they might, as the arrangements made by the committee with that object in view were perfect. Smart and Aumont's band of three performers was engaged and supplied most up-to-date and inviting music, better catering than Mr. Holder's has not been seen at the Shire hall, and the floor also was in excellent condition. There was too that holiday spirit prevailing consequent upon the annual festival, so it is little wonder that everything went with a swing and a go that is sure to make next year's ball a much looked forward to event. Amongst those present was Cr Allchin, the president of the shire, Mr. Higgs acted as M.C. and Messrs Hedigan and Doran were the chairman and secretary of the committee respectively.

The monthly meeting of the Northcote Public Library Committee was held at the town hall on Tuesday evening. Present:—Messrs Lees (president), Don, Swift, Williams, Little, and Whalley. Accounts amounting to £19 13s 5d were passed for payment and the book committee reported having purchased during the month books to the value of £5, which are now in circulation. A standard work dealing with every branch of accountancy and auditing has also been procured for the use of students and others. The president reported that Mr. J. A. Leach, Master of Science and Inspector of Nature Study in the Education Department of Victoria, had offered to deliver a lecture on "The Mosquito," illustrated with lantern views, in connection with the library, and the offer was unanimously accepted. Thursday, 1st April, has been selected for the lecture, provided the date meets with Mr. Leach's approval. Arrangements were left in the hands of the president and secretary.

The final meeting of the committee in connection with the recent Northcote Children's Excursion was held at the town hall on Thursday evening. Cr. Tharratt, who was presiding at Dr. Springthorpe's lecture in another part of the building sent an apology, and Mr. W. H. Kay, chairman of the Board of Advice presided. The secretary (Cr. A. E. Woolhouse) had the pleasure of submitting a balance sheet, which showed that the 1909 picnic had been a thorough financial success, about £6 remaining in hand after all accounts amounting to £91 9s 8d had been paid. The balance sheet was received with great satisfaction and referred to Messrs J. H. Brown and W. G. Swift for audit. On the motion of Mr. R. J. Whalley and Mr. J. H. Brown a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the chairman (Cr. Tharratt) the secretary (Cr. Woolhouse), the collectors, the members of the refreshment and sports committees the ladies and gentleman who had assisted at the cutting up and who worked so hard on picnic day, making the last picnic one of the most successful and enjoyable of the whole series of fifteen held. The following were the collections—North and west wards—F. Ludlow, £8 2s 6d; Mrs Choranshaw, £1 1s; E. McPherson, 10s 6d; C. Adlington, 14s 9d; Mrs McFarlane, 10s 9d; Mrs Bipper, 15s 9d. East ward—Messrs R. Tobin and T. Thompson, £9 4s 6d. Central ward—Mr. C. Frawley, £5 2s. South ward—Mrs Sloth, £2 6s 10d; Miss Lancaster, £1 6s 10d. Northcote S. Ratepayers' Association, 10s 6d; North Wards Ratepayers' Association, 5s.

Wanted to Sell

QUINCES for sale, 2s per case. C. Wuchatsch, Epping.

BUILDING SAND, coarse or fine; also gravel and first-class garden soil; delivered in all suburbs. A. Strongman, Bell street, South Preston.

Localisms.

Northcote council meet on Monday evening to elect a mayor.

"Tea is, I might say, distinctly wholesome, providing you make an infusion and not a decoction."—Dr. Springthorpe.

Preston A.N.A. celebrate their 22nd anniversary with a bioscope entertainment at the shire hall on Wednesday, 21st April.

Cr. and Mrs. Bainbridge, of Northcote, have arranged to take a trip to the Motherland and will leave at the end of the present month.

"Artemus Ward tells of a man who was inoculated with serum from a goat. On the following Sunday he had to take up the collection in the church and surprised everybody by butting at the worshippers."—Dr. Springthorpe.

Cr. Candy reported to the town council on Monday night that the Minister of Public Works had promised the deputation which waited upon him with reference to the improvement of the Merri Creek that something would be done.

Five young men were charged at the Northcote Court on Monday with riding their bicycles on the footpath. Three were fined 2/6 each and two, who did not appear, 5s each.

The following tenders were accepted at the Northcote town council meeting on Monday: Supply of 1000 yards of metal, Messrs Dynan Bros., £270; construction of right of way between Woolton avenue and Shaftesbury parade, £111 15s 4d, Mr. J. A. Brown.

The Law says to a parent "Thou shalt send thy child to school." Then the makers of the law should see that the environments of the child are right—no overcrowding, suitable tuition, &c.—Dr. Springthorpe.

Northcote Football Club invite applications for the position of head trainer and trainers to the club for coming season. They must be sent to the secretary not later than March 23rd.

Under the auspices of Northcote South Ratepayers' Association a monster all bioscope entertainment is to be held in the Northcote Park on Wednesday, 7th April, proceeds in aid of formation of children's playground.

The committee of the May Fair, which is to be run for the Preston Public Free and Lending Library, have secured Lady Carmichael, wife of His Excellency, the State Governor, to perform the opening ceremony.

Instead of the syllabus item "Debate with Collingwood Branch," there will be "quoits, games, &c.," at the meeting of Northcote branch, A.N.A., on Thursday evening next, 25th inst.

Mr. C. B. Luffman, who made the Burnley Gardens what they are, could not work with the Government. He left Victoria for the good of his soul and is now somewhere near the Persian Gulf.—Dr. Springthorpe.

Mr. F. J. Goodwin succeeds Mr. Dickens as pastor of the Church of Christ, Preston.

On Sunday, 28th March, at 3 p.m., in the Methodist Church, South Preston, the Rev. C. Dugan will deliver a special address to the parents and scholars, after which the prizes will be distributed. [Advt.]

Best and Co. drapers, High street, Upper Northcote, announce their show of autumn goods, "Having bought in the right market, at the right time, they offer exceptional value." Particulars are advertised.

Northcote Horticultural Society hold their grand floral display and social evening in the town-hall on Wednesday, 14th April.

The Northcote library committee have had the weekly numbers of the "Scientific American," in its possession, bound in yearly volumes. There are five complete volumes, and as it is acknowledged to be the most reliable and most up-to date work of the kind published, persons having scientific, inventive, or mechanical inclinations, will find in these works information that cannot be obtained from any other source. The books are splendidly illustrated and subscribers may have them for home use on application to the librarian.

Anniversary services in connection with the Northcote Methodist Sunday School will be continued to-morrow, when the preachers will be Rev. E. T. Cox (morning), Rev. R. Ditterich (afternoon), and Rev. T. Alday (evening). On Tuesday evening the scholars' night will be held, for which a splendid programme has been arranged.

Northcote Cycling Club's second social will take place next Friday evening, 26th, in the town hall.

Hattam and Hattam invite inspection of their splendid display of autumn goods this day.

If you want to bring about reforms don't go talking about what you are going to do; start in a humble way, expecting very little, yet hoping for much, success. Remember Carlyle's paraphrase, "Blessed is he who expecteth nothing, for he shall not be disappointed."—Dr. Springtqorpe.

The president of the Methodist Conference (Rev. H. Saloway) will conduct the anniversary service of the Preston Methodist Sabbath School to morrow morning. The Rev. C. C. Dugan will officiate in the afternoon, and Rev. S. J. Hoban in the evening. The tea and distribution of prizes is fixed for Wednesday evening.

The event of the year—the Scholars' Night—in connection with the South Preston Methodist Sunday School will be held in the church on Tuesday, 30th March. Special attraction, "Building the Lighthouse," by scholars, also songs, recitations, dialogues, etc. Admission free—collection. [Advt.]

C. A. Stephenson advertises that he has commenced business as a fruiterer, greengrocer, and confectioner, in new premises opposite the shire-hall, High street.

"The average wealth of Australian citizens is above that of any other people in the world. —Dr. Springthorpe.

New goods for autumn wear.—To-day Messrs Hattam and Hattam are offering velveteens (28 shades), blousings, furs, millinery, hosiery, gloves, etc., all the newest and best goods, at wonderful values. [Advt].

Coming events:—At the Northcote council meeting last Monday invitations were received for the mayor and councillors to attend the following fixtures:—Lecture, "A City's Recreation," by Dr. Springthorpe, arranged by the Northcote South Progress Association; lecturette, "Australian Poets," by Mrs. J. C. Robinson, M.A., assisted by the Misses Malmgren and Oaten, arranged by the A.W.A.; lecture, "My recent trip round the World," by Cr. Marschner, of Collingwood, arranged by the Northcote South Ratepayers' Association.

INVITATION CONCERT.

The president and officers of the Northcote South Ratepayers' Association gave an invitation concert in the Parish hall last Tuesday evening, and there was a crowded attendance of ratepayers, the president (Mr. E. Brothers) presiding. The programme was kindly arranged by Mr. H. Lachmond. It contained many popular items, notably the humorous recitations of Messrs M. Jackson and W. P. Roberts, and the singing of the boy soprano, Master Leigh Bowes. A special word is due to Miss Elsie Bowes, who acted as accompanist, and to Miss Ruby Bowes who rendered the committee splendid assistance. The programme was as follows:—Piano solo, Miss Elsie Bowes; song, "Sing me to Sleep," Miss Blackmore; recitation, "Her Name," Miss Hazel Mason; song, "I'm a Poor Married Man," Mr. Fry; song, "As the World Rolls on," Miss Ruby Bowes; song, "Evening Pas Voral," Miss Drayton; song, "Britania School," Mr. W. Martin; song, "The Dream of Home," Master Leigh Bowes; recitation, "The Way back Family at the Zoo," Miss Kinsman; song, "Good-bye," Miss Blackmore; humorous recitation, Mr. M. Jackson; song, "Japanese Love Song," Miss Drayton; recitation, "The Hat," Miss Hazel Mason; song, "Sing Swee Bird," Master Leigh Bowes; humorous recitation, Mr. Roberts; duet, "Really Fact," Messrs Shands and Bradshaw; humorous recitation, Mr. M. Jackson; recitation, "He Didn't," Miss Elsie Bowes; song, "She's a Lassie from Lancashire," Mr. Fry. Cr. Candy moved, Cr. Little seconded, and Mr. G. Claussen supported a vote of thanks to the ladies and gentlemen who had so kindly entertained them, and the president reminded the audience of the entertainment to be held in the park on the 7th prox. to raise funds for the creation of Children's playgrounds.

BOTTLES, Bones Rags, Zinc, Lead, Brass and Copper. Highest prices given. Cash on delivery. Letters receive prompt attention. H. Bishop, Darebin Rd., Northcote.

DEATH OF EX-CR. HASTINGS.

AN OLD PIONEER GONE.

There passed away on Wednesday morning last at his residence, "Canonbury," High street, ex-Councillor Edwin Hastings, one of the town's most notable figures, and who for years past has been looked upon as the "grand old man" of Northcote. Born in the world's metropolis, London, he came to Victoria with that "legion that never was listed" in 1849, and after a spell at the diggings settled as a business man in Northcote, then but a small settlement, known locally as "the village," and separated from the city by bush. For between 30 and 40 years he conducted the old post office store, finally retiring from same with a competency, which, alas, was to be largely dissipated in the land-boom days, when the spirit of the old pioneer was shown by again putting his shoulder to the wheel and resurrecting his fortune. Never a man to think solely of his own well-doing he took the first opportunity of serving his fellow-ratepayers by becoming a member of the first Epping Road Board. This was away back in 1863, and it is a well known fact that from that day till his voluntary retirement a few weeks ago on account of failing health, or for a period of 45 years, he enjoyed an unbroken term of office as a municipal councillor, and with it, of course, the confidence of his fellow ratepayers—surely a unique record. He held all the offices which were in the gift of the municipalities he was associated with, having been chairman of the Epping Road Board, president of Jika shire, mayor of the Borough of Northcote and also of the Town of Northcote. It was while in the latter position that he performed the crowning act of his municipal career, and that was by giving his casting vote to secure the purchase of the Northcote Tramway, which is already an asset equal to the whole of the town's liabilities, bringing in great revenue, and assisting materially in the development of the town. As a general citizen, the late ex Cr. Hastings was also one of the best, giving nearly half a century's service as a Justice of the Peace, acting for many years as member of the library committee, and also on other committees and in connection with other movements for the good of the town. Always, too, was he ready to assist in any deserving case of charity, doing it quietly and without ostentation. For almost the whole of his long life he enjoyed wonderful health, his step on the pavement even after 80, being as sprightly as that of a youth's. It was only latterly that he commenced to fail, and when he took to his bed about a fortnight ago he seemed to know it was to rise no more. Before his passing away he had the satisfaction of seeing one of his own name—his grandson Mr. Harold Hastings—elected to the position which he had himself filled so long and so honorably; and the town, whose interests he had so much at heart, prospering exceedingly. It is with a sense of loss and a feeling of deep and sincere regret that the community parts with these enterprising, upright, intelligent and self reliant men—the old pioneers—of which our late esteemed townsman was so fine a type. As is well known the late Mr. Hastings leaves a widow and one daughter (Mrs Edgar Hastings). Ever since the announcement of the death the town flag has been flown at half-mast, and other marks of respect have been shown by the half-shuttered business places and in numerous other ways. The funeral took place yesterday, when, of course, there was a large gathering to pay a last tribute to their old friend and fellow worker.

The Northcote town councillors and officers were present, and several of their number, together with the Hon. Frank Madden, speaker of the Legislative Assembly, acted as pall-bearers. The interment was at the Boroondara Cemetery, the Rev. T. Alday (Methodist) reading the burial service, the service of the I.O.R., of which Order the late Mr. Hastings was a member for over 50 years, being also read by Mr. J. G. Membrey, M.L.A. The mortuary arrangements were carried out by Mr. H. J. R. Lewis.

The Death of our Pioneers.

They're passing away,—our old neighbors around—
All but ourselves, all but ourselves!
Co workers with us now lie under the ground—
All but ourselves!
Each week or each day "home" the old people go—
All but ourselves, all but ourselves!
We miss them and sighing turn face from the "Foe"—
All but ourselves!
We see the age-furrows creep over their brows—
All but ourselves, all but ourselves!
And mark with what certainty Father Time ploughs—
All but ourselves!
"He's nearing the grave," so we say of our friend—
All but ourselves! All but ourselves!
We note the once manly form totter and bend—
All but ourselves!
But one day will sound a quick step by the way—
'Tis for ourselves! 'Tis for ourselves!
And while we look round for the "tribute of clay"—
'Tis for ourselves!—for ourselves!

THEO. FORD.

Better Postal Facilities Wanted.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—Through the medium of your paper may I call attention to our postal box clearances. We have a letter box at the corner of our main street and Separation street, but after 7.30 p.m. if you wish your letters to be delivered the following morning you have to journey to the P.O. Now this is rather out of the way for others, like myself, that come from lower Separation street. What I think is needed is that the box mentioned be cleared at same time as Post Office, viz., midnight. It would be no trouble to the postal department and would save a lot of inconvenience. Perhaps our council will see their way clear, to try and advance another step our postal matters.—Yours, etc., E.J.C.

Northcote, 18.3.09.

Preston Church of Christ.

On Friday evening, 12th inst., the above church held a social to bid farewell for a short time to the late preacher (Mr. W. T. Dickens) and his wife, who have moved to Whittlesea; also the late treasurer (Mr. F. J. Moate) who with his wife has gone to Fitzroy. At the same time a welcome was given to Mr. F. J. Goodwin, of the College of the Bible, who is taking up the work of ministering to the church. Mr. O. A. Walker was in the chair. Addresses were given to a good meeting by Mr. H. G. Hanvard, the president of the Church of Christ conference, and also by Mr. H. Swain, evangelist at Fitzroy. Both speakers urged the need of close fellowship and harmony in working. The hope was also expressed that the congregation would soon possess a chapel of their own. An address of welcome was accorded Mr. Goodwin by Mr. W. Strongman, who assured him of the hearty co-operation of church and individual members.

At this stage of the meeting the chairman, on behalf of the church, presented Mr. Dickens with a beautiful silver cake dish and pair of vases, suitably inscribed, and Mr. Moate with a silver-mounted salad bowl. Both briefly responded. Mr. Dickens said he would endeavour to set up a church at Whittlesea if he found an opening.

Refreshments were served by the ladies and in this way a pleasant evening was brought to a close.

High-Class Tailoring.
Of course, there are arguments in favor of low-grade tailoring, but what about the contra arguments? When a man considers both sides of the question he generally concludes that the low grade side of the question isn't worth much.
We have a 28 years' reputation for HIGH-CLASS TAILORING at REASONABLE PRICES.
GEORGE WARDROP
THE GOOD-VALUE TAILOR,
CORNER SMITH and JOHNSTON STS, COLLINGWOOD.
Ring up 4496 for Patterns.

NORTHCOTE METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL.

COMMENDABLE ENTERPRISE.

The authorities of the Northcote Methodist Church have shown much wisdom and considerable enterprise and business ability in the erection of their new school buildings on the church ground, and the conversion of the old school on the east side of High street into commodious double-fronted shops. The change will be a distinct gain in the advancement of Sunday school work, and also in greatly improving the appearance of High street, and, according to the treasurer's estimate, the enterprise will greatly relieve the financial obligations of the church. From all points, therefore, the action of the trustees is to be commended and we congratulate them in the consolidation of their church property and in the possession of several rent-producing concerns.

The school building is right up-to date, being expressly planned for school work, well lighted, and splendidly ventilated with the most modern appliances. The main hall is so commodious—40 feet wide by 64 feet long—that it is estimated to seat 600 persons, and by throwing open the doors of the class rooms at the northern end an additional 200 could be accommodated. There is also an extensive platform at the southern end of the hall and no fewer than nine fine class rooms are provided. There is a smaller hall, disconnected from the main building, for the infants, the measurement of which is 26ft. x 18ft. One hundred and seventy thousand bricks have been used in the building and 25,000 feet of pine lining. The contractor was Cr. J. Bainbridge and the way he has executed the work has given complete satisfaction. The architect was Mr. C. E. Anderson. In the main hall there are two striking scrolls, one at each end, with the following texts artistically illuminated:—

"God is our Refuge and Strength."
"I am the Bread of Life."

ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.

The special services in celebration of the 55th anniversary of the above school were commenced on Sunday last. There were fine congregations at all three services. The Rev. John Nall, superintendent of the circuit, was the morning preacher and delivered a most interestin address on Jacob and Esau, showing incidentally that human nature was just the same in the days of the old Israelitish patriarchs as it is to-day, and also educing some excellent lessons for both parents and children from what went on in old Jacob's household. The Rev. Chas. Tregear preached in the afternoon and Mrs. Bride Barber in the evening, an extra large congregation assembling to hear Mrs. Barber, who was always very popular in the High street pulpit. Another attraction at this service, too, was the singing of Miss Jessie Temby, whose interest in her old school caused her to come along and give a helping hand. The singing by the children and choir of the very pretty anniversary hymns was as usual a most enjoyable feature of the services, and great credit is due to Mr. T. Trevena for the efficiency shown. Mr. C. Strickland presided at the organ and Miss Carrie Membrey at the piano, and a full orchestra also lent their valuable assistance.

The services will be continued to morrow, when the preachers will be the Revs. E. T. Cox, R. Ditterich, and T. Alday. The always popular "Scholars' Night" is on Tuesday night.

OPENING THE NEW SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

The ceremony of opening the new buildings was fixed for last Monday evening, when a large and interested assemblage was present to witness what might be termed the most important event in the school's history. The very high compliment of performing the ceremony was conferred on the Rev. T. Alday, minister of the church. After a hymn had been sung,

Mr. Alday said he felt it a very great privilege and honor to be allowed to perform such an interesting ceremony as the opening of their new school builings, and he would like to say to the officers and the trustees that he greatly appreciated their kindness, for the task filled him with pleasure, gratitude, and delight. For very many years it was felt that their school work was being conducted at a disadvantage for want of proper accommodation, and after considering many schemes, the proposal of their modest treasurer, Mr. George Little, to convert the old school into shops and erect a new school on the church grounds was accepted. (Applause.) To night the work was so far complete that they were able to enter into the magnificent pile of buildings that had been erected, and he was confident that all who were associated with the school and the church, as well as those who had assisted in the work, were proud of the result. (Applause). The new building was undoubtedly the most forward advance they had ever made in Sunday school work, and it ought to be the means of guiding and stimulating scholars and teachers and officers to a greater standard of proficiency and usefulness. He heartily congratulated the school and all associated with it in the possession of such a fine property. (Applause).

The treasurer (Mr. Little) then handed to Miss Clarice Pearl Alday the key of the school to unlock the door. He also presented the little lady with a gold brooch as a souvenir of the occasion, and expressed the hope that the task she was about to perform would remain in her memory as one of the pleasantest acts of her life.

The Rev. Mr. Alday said that Mrs. Alday and himself deeply appreciated the kindness shown in asking their little daughter to take such an important part in the ceremony, and thanked them all for the presentation made to her.

The Rev. Alday then said—The school is now open, and you may enter by paying a silver coin.

THE CONCERT.

By the time the concert commenced, eight o'clock, there was a very large audience present and all were pleased with the spacious and well-lighted hall. Amongst the clergy and others on the platform there were two estimable men—fathers of Methodism—who had been long and faithful workers in both church and school, namely, Mr. W. H. Dennis and Mr. W. W. Tomkins. These two gentlemen have been prevented through failing health from taking any active part in school work for some time, the latter for a period of over two years, but owing to their very long connection with the church they each made a special effort—not without risk—to be present on such an historic occasion as the opening of a new school. If they were pleased to attend their friends were much more delighted to see them present. They were both heartily welcomed by the chairman.

After an appropriate opening hymn, the Rev. R. Ditterich engaged in earnest prayer, which was followed by a part song "Moonlight," by the young men and women.

The chairman, Rev. T. Alday, in a few opening remarks, said that they were all filled with satisfaction after viewing the magnificent hall and splendid set of class rooms. Indeed, there were so many causes for gratification that he would not attempt to enumerate them. Everybody had worked splendidly. The trustees were real soldiers—tigers—trojans—anything you like—(laughter)—and had proved wise and judicious men, and they were under a lasting debt of gratitude to the officer who had conceived the scheme as well as to those who had carried it through so successfully. (Applause).

Miss Jessie Temby, a former scholar of the school and a popular vocalist, gave a delightful rendering of "April Morn" and obligingly rendered in response to an encore, "Blue Bonnets."

THE FINANCES.

The treasurer (Mr. Little) in submitting the finances of the church said that the trust debt a year or two ago ago was £2250, added to which they had an overdraft of £50. This was a very heavy burden, and the officers met to consider means of improving their position. It was decided to erect two shops on the church property in High street. This had assisted the finances greatly as they showed a profit of between £60 and £70 per annum. For some time it was felt that the school accommodation was inadequate for carrying on the work properly, and the first intention was to add additional class rooms, but this was afterwards waived to give effect to the present scheme. The new school buildings and the conversion of the old premises into shops would cost £1900, and towards this it was expected that at least £250 would be raised in contributions by the time they were completed. They would therefore require to borrow £1650, against which they would derive an annual income of £230 in rentals, and as the rates and upkeep would not exceed £80, they could safely rely on a profit of £200. Putting the total liabilities down at £4400, the revenue from the letting properties would in the space of 26 years totally wipe out £3000 of that amount, so that the trustees would only have a church debt of £1400 to provide for as against £2250 as at present. Of course there would be an additional expense in furnishing and seating the new buildings in a manner that would render them attractive and a joy to those who labor therein. Before the trustees sanctioned the work the church authorities entered into a guarantee to raise £250 by the time the school was opened. Of this amount the Sunday school were responsible for £100 and the church for £150, and there was no doubt that the amount would be forthcoming.

A chorus, "Comrades in Arms," was rendered with good spirit by the young men.

DOES SUNDAY SCHOOL WORK PAY?

The Rev. A. Madsen congratulated the church and school on the spacious and up-to-date building they had erected, and which was so excellently designed to serve the purposes of a modern Sunday school. People were asking to-day—Does Sunday School work pay? Is it worth doing? Of course it paid. It was a good investment—the best of all investments—and they could not put their energies and their talents to a higher use. It paid the church, the home, and the community, because the future destiny of the race and the empire was dependent on the character of the young people. Teaching was not enough. They wanted their young men and their young women to get right into the spirit of fellowship, into the currents and environment of school life so that they might become strong in character. (Applause).

Miss Temby again favoured and again delighted with her tasteful rendering

THE PITFALL

By SIR WILLIAM MAGNAY, Bart., Author of "The Master Spirit," "The Red Chancellor," "A Prince of Lovers," etc.

Published by Arrangement with Ward, Lock & Co. Ltd., Melb' & Lon.

CHAPTER XXII.
Fate in the Air.

The blow had been dealt with vicious force, and Killotis lay half-stunned on the ground. Throwing a scornful look at his prostrate adversary, and perhaps a little ashamed of his display, the Turk, muttering some words in his own language, walked away up the ravine. The Baron followed and joined him, appearing by his gestures to be expostulating with him. Tilghman and Dalray stayed by the Greek, who presently rose trembling and half-dazed.

"The dog of a Turk shall pay for this," he gasped unsteadily and with passion. "He shall pay for it if it cost me a thousand lire."

"I am sorry, and think you have been badly treated," Tilghman observed, as he picked up the man's hat and gave it to him. "But you were unwise to provoke a stronger man than yourself."

"Cowardly dog," Killotis cried, ignoring the question of his own lack of judgment.

"I am afraid he is a bully," Tilghman observed quietly.

"Bully? We shall see! We shall see!" ejaculated the Greek vindictively.

Mechanically he picked up his implements and turned to climb the slope of the ravine. He had gone but a few yards when Rassim, who was now a considerable distance away, turned and looked back as though to see what Killotis was doing. The action seemed to sting the Greek into a fresh access of fury. He raised his arm, and shook his fist fiercely at the Turk, then turned as from a hateful object and went on his way.

Tilghman and Dalray walked up the ravine together.

"There is something in this business I can't quite fathom," Tilghman remarked. "I mean as regards the Baron."

"Yes. He seems to be playing a double game."

"That's just it. His object clearly seems to be to set these two fellows by the ears and bring the dispute to a crisis."

"Which he has effectually accomplished."

"Yes. Of course it may be a plan to get rid of Killotis, who has been evidently on the track of the treasure in there. He will now probably have to leave the island."

"And then our esteemed friend will have only Rassim to deal with."

"I should say that was his object; if it were nothing deeper still. From what we saw last night he must have put the Greek up to defying the Turk, with the inevitable and naturally foreseen result."

They had now reached the others of the party. Rassim was holding forth volubly, excusing his action and inveighing against the character of the Greeks in general and the iniquities of Smyrniote traders in particular.

"I am not to be defied by such canaille," he declared. "The wretched fellow brought his chastisement on himself; you saw that, gentlemen; you can bear witness that I was not the aggressor?"

He directed his appeal more pointedly to Tilghman and Dalray, who could but agree that the Greek had brought his trouble upon himself.

"A miserable Smyrniote huckster," Rassim exclaimed indignantly. "He comes here claiming rights of search for works of art which he may sell at exorbitant prices in his cheating den. It would have served him right if I had kicked him into the sea."

"A vindictive-looking scoundrel, my dear Bey," observed the Baron lightly. "I should advise you to be on your guard. You saw his threatening action just now?"

The Bey snapped his fingers. "Oh, yes. That for it."

"Did he make use of any threats?" the Baron inquired of Tilghman.

"Nothing definite," was the guarded answer. "Naturally he was very angry."

"I have never yet entertained fear of any man," Rassim declared, with a sort of dignified boastfulness. "And when I begin it shall be with some one more worthy and formidable than a vile Smyrniote shopkeeper."

"Our friend might do worse than make a beginning with the Baron," Tilghman murmured with grim slyness to his friend.

The unpleasant subject then dropped, and nothing more was seen of Killotis.

Later in the day Dalray got a chance of a few minutes' quiet speech with Huberta. He asked her how things were going, and whether she had suffered any annoyance from the Baron. She told him that he had not renewed his suit.

"I am almost daring to hope," she added, "that he is going to leave me in peace and accept my refusal. After all, you know, he may not be as bad as we are inclined to suppose him."

Dalray could not help thinking that the chances were that he was much worse, but he gave no hint of it. Also that the prosecution of his suit was only postponed through pressure of other business on hand. But he left her in the indulgence of her hope. After all, it was everything just then to gain time. As things were at the moment they had no locus standi, no excuse for interfering, for taking strong and direct measures to defeat the Baron's design.

"But the Bey, absurd man," Huberta continued, laughingly, "gets more aggressive every time we meet. He is getting desperate, and quite fails to see how ridiculous his project is."

"Many men fail to see that," observed Dalray, "until it is brought home to them with crude and unmistakable plainness. And we can scarcely look for a sense of humor in a Turkish official. A certain dignified brutality seems their prevailing characteristic. I hope the Bey does not annoy you?"

"Oh, no," Huberta answered. "At least not yet. But there is no knowing to what lengths he may go. He seems capable of anything—except humor."

"You must also think that we are capable of anything—to protect you," he said.

Huberta gave him a grateful look. "I am sure of that," she responded.

"You may be indeed," he assured her.

"I do not understand the Baron," she said in a confidential tone. "He seems to be quite content that the Bey should make love to me, and even is always ready to give way to him. It does not seem natural after his—his declaration, does it?" She gave a little laugh of perplexity.

"No," Dalray agreed. "But I fancy there is a deep game being played between the Turk and the Baron. You need not fear, however, for I do not think it touches you."

She looked at him curiously, as though at a loss to comprehend what he alluded to. "I do not understand you," she said. "But I daresay I am told as much as is good for me to know."

"We are rather in the dark ourselves at present," he replied; "but we hope to know more very soon. In the meantime it is clear that the interests of the Baron and of Rassim Bey are decidedly antagonistic."

Huberta made a slight gesture of warning. Following her glance, Dalray looked round. Rassim Bey was within a dozen paces of them. His face had resumed its usual expression of inscrutable dignified calm, but there was disapproval in his eyes.

"Mr. Dalray's scientific keenness is blunted to-day," he observed with the suggestion of a sneer. "For genuine enthusiasm the Professor puts you younger men to shame."

With a domineering touch which was his salient characteristic, he interposed himself between Huberta and Dalray.

The action was rude and overbearing enough to call for resentment. Yet somehow Dalray felt he could not bring himself to take offence. He did not know why, but he pitied the great bully. Indefinably he felt that the proud, masterful man's fate was in the air. That strong and astute as he was, his power and cleverness counted but as weakness and blind folly when matched against de Gastard's resourcefulness.

So he ignored the manner of his ousting, and with a light remark, walked away.

CHAPTER XXIII.
The Shadow in the Ravine.

That night Tilghman and Dalray went ashore again, taking care that their movements should be as far as possible unobserved.

"It won't do for us to go to sleep and ignore what is going on around us," Tilghman had insisted when they had discussed the situation. "Of course the obvious antagonism and designs of these men are not our affair. They are nothing to us, and we should be fools to trouble our heads about them except so far as they affect the question of the Baron's evident intention of forcing Miss Chilworth to marry him. The more we can find out about the man, his character and his doings, the stronger will be our position when it comes to interfering, and, more particularly, justifying our interference."

"There is mischief afoot," said Dalray. "Of that I am certain. But the form it will take is not yet easy to foretell."

"No," his friend agreed, "consequently there is all the more reason for vigilance on our part. We must, if possible, see the mischief in the doing. When done it will be too late. A clever schemer like de Gastard would make it his first care to obliterate every trace, every circumstance that might connect him with it."

On landing they were not long in coming upon something which gave them food for active speculation. It was their own care to avoid observation that brought to their notice other two men actuated by the same intent.

They had come ashore at a place some few hundred yards above the quay, where a few low rocks afford covert, and lessened the chance of their being noticed; thence they took their way up towards the ruin, where they proposed to keep watch.

"It would have been well to have had a peep into the inn," Tilghman observed. "But the risk of being recognised in the village street would be too great. We must above all things avoid rousing suspicion that we are on the qui vive, or indeed anything more than easy-going nonentities. It counts to our advantage just now that the Baron has, with all his cleverness, formed that estimate of us."

Just then a curious thing happened which put the two men warily on the alert.

The wind had risen somewhat, and light clouds drifted at intervals across the moon. The ground the two were traversing was broken up into regular slopes; it was rough, and the ravines between the low hills were covered with brushwood. Suddenly, just as a cloud passed from the moon's face and light succeeded a short interval of obscurity, during which the progress of the two men on the dangerously rough ground of the little valley had been temporarily arrested, Dalray caught his friend's arm and pointed upwards.

"What's that?" he said under his breath. Tilghman did not see anything unusual. Then he became aware of an appearance which had startled Dalray.

They were, as has been said, making their way with some difficulty along a ravine. On their left hand the side rose abruptly, not to any great height, still the perpendicular, even slightly overhanging, wall made its ascent practically impossible. The other side of the ravine nearest the shore sloped back at a considerable angle. On this the moon was shining directly, and along it there was now moving the elongated shadow of a person walking on the opposite height.

The figure moved quickly in the direction of the ruins. Without crossing the bottom of the ravine and ascending for some little way the sloping side, it would be impossible for the two men to get a view of the person throwing the shadow; while they on their part were effectually hidden from his observation, standing as they were almost directly beneath him. To pass out of their concealment in order to see the man would mean bringing themselves into observation, a thing they particularly wished to avoid.

"Let's push on quickly and follow him," Tilghman whispered. "Keep in close to the side. A little way ahead there is a place where we can climb up out of this."

Accordingly they hastened on warily and as fast as the nature of the ground would let them. About a hundred and fifty yards farther on the left side the ravine fell away sufficiently to make the ascent quite practicable. But before they reached this place the shadow had outdistanced them and disappeared.

Crouching down, they scrambled as noiselessly as possible up to the high ground. As they gained the top they gradually raised themselves and looked round. No one was to be seen. The man, whoever he was, had vanished.

They were now quite near the ruins. Tilghman leading the way, they ran quickly forward to the place above the entrance to the tunnel where they had previously watched. An owl flew up with a screech at being disturbed; that was the only sign of life or movement they could see.

"Whoever it was, he must have gone underground," Dalray said.

They lay down as before, where, being hidden, they commanded a view of the opening.

"I wish," Tilghman replied, "we could have seen who it was. Most probably Killotis, but the shadow was unrecognisable. The only thing now is to stay here and watch."

"I wonder," observed Dalray, "whether the Baron, who seems to have let the wretched Greek in for an unpleasant quarter of an hour, will foregather with him again to-night."

Tilghman shook his head doubtfully. "That remains to be seen. So far, I am at a loss, I must confess, to understand his game. And yet that he is playing a game, and a deep one, I am convinced."

For some time, as they waited in silence, nothing happened to reward their watchfulness. Then suddenly a man appeared in the ravine, walking quickly towards the cavern. It was the Baron; his figure and walk were hardly to be mistaken, even in the obscurity of that valley of shadows. It was impossible to say exactly where he had come from, for with all their alertness the two watchers had not noticed him till he was within a few paces of the opening.

Arrived there, he stopped to light a small lantern. The momentary gleam of the match removed all doubt as to de Gastard's identity. The lantern lighted, he at once disappeared into the passage.

Not a word passed between the two watchers overhead. Dalray just glanced at his friend, who responded by a nod of grim satisfaction, and they resumed their attitude of vigilance. Perhaps both felt that speculation was now idle in the face of doings which were surely making for a crisis that would, helped by what they knew and suspected, tell its own story.

But their anticipated reappearance of the Baron, alone or otherwise, did not come to pass. They stayed motionless, watching in intensifying expectancy for half-hour after half-hour, but the black opening gave no sign of the return of whoever was within. At length, when quite two hours had gone by without incident, Tilghman broke his steadfast observation of the dark orifice and said in a low voice to his companion:

"Hugh, I think we are getting tired of this. What do you say to creeping down and having a try to see what is going on in there?"

"I'll come," Dalray answered promptly.

"We ought, with care and, above all, luck, to get a glimpse of this mystery," said Tilghman, "and we can now hardly look upon it as anything else. We can crawl down by the side there under cover of the bushes, and even if our friend should come out he won't notice us in the dark fissure."

"But how if we meet him in the tunnel?"

"We shall catch the gleam of his lantern before he sees us. He, or they, will probably be down the long winding gallery we explored the other day. I think we can find our way in the dark. I have a candle in my pocket, which I brought in case of need, but our plan must be to avoid light. I am sure I can find my way about the place without it. It is a risky proceeding, but it may tell us something which will be more than worth it. I'd go alone but for the importance of a second witness."

"Indeed you shall not," Dalray returned. "I am just as keen as you are, and with more reason. Come along."

CHAPTER XXIV.
More Mystery.

Warily and without noise the two men, ever keeping a sharp eye upon the tunnel, made their way down by an overgrown fissure left by some former upheaval of the ground. The end of this landed them a few yards from the opening. They stayed some seconds listening intently for any sign of movement within; hearing nothing, they crept forward and entered the black cavern.

"Give me your hand," whispered Tilghman, who was in front. "When I let go, prepare to turn and get back as quickly as you can. It will mean some one is coming towards us."

They groped their way along the outer tunnel without much difficulty. At the point where it opened out into the large chamber from which the galleries radiated they halted again to listen. The place was pitch dark and absolutely silent. Feeling his way round to the right, Tilghman went on, leading Dalray who kept slightly behind him. They passed two openings in the circuit which they knew were of no great depth; then they reached the third from the entrance, the longer, winding gallery which led to the large chamber they had already explored. That was evidently the most important of the series, and here Tilghman stopped.

"I feel pretty certain he, or they, are in there," he whispered, after listening awhile. "I think it would be well for you to stay here while I go forward and reconnoitre. The passage is so narrow and winding that one man can get along it much better than two in case of a surprise, and then you will be able to keep watch here in case any one should appear from some other opening, which, however, I don't think likely. If I see anything remarkable I will come back for you."

Dalray would have preferred to go on, but saw the sense in the suggestion, and agreed.

"Keep on the alert, especially for any sound from me," Tilghman said, and so left him.

Dalray waited in the darkness and almost appalling silence for what seemed a long time, but which was actually scarcely ten minutes, during which time no sound or sign of movement broke the dead stillness. Then suddenly a faint gleam of light shone round the winding of the passage. Dalray, with every nerve on a tension, was prepared to retreat, when the light was extinguished and next moment he heard Tilghman calling to him in a low voice. "All right?"

"Yes," he answered, and in a second or two his friend had rejoined him.

"A curious thing," Tilghman said under his breath, "no one is in there. I searched the whole place thoroughly and found no sign of anybody."

"The chamber is at the far end?"

"Yes. I lighted my candle and looked all round it. No one in there. You have seen nothing?"

"Nothing."

"The Baron and the other man, if there is another, must be in one of the other galleries," Tilghman said. "It is risky, but being in for the adventure I mean to go on with it. The worst of it is, not knowing the other passages, I shall have to carry a light."

They felt their way to the next opening.

"Stay here," Tilghman said, as he went inside and lighted his candle, hiding the light as well as he could with his soft felt hat.

In a very few moments he was back again. "That leads nowhere," he said; "it stops a few paces in. Let's try the next."

This proved to be a mere alcove some four yards deep, and they went on. The next opening was low and narrow. Tilghman crept in, but found it a straight passage without branches, which was brought to an end by what seemed a stone wall of the old castle.

Having satisfied himself that there was no outlet at the farther end, Tilghman returned. They proceeded to examine the rest of the excavations, but with no greater success. Some ran back farther than others, but none very far; they seemed to have been abandoned as unpromising points to work at.

"I can't make it out," Tilghman said in a puzzled tone, when they had worked round again to the long gallery. "There must be at least one man in here. We both of us saw the Baron go in, and are equally certain that he has not gone out. Where can he be?"

"The only solution of the mystery that I can imagine," Dalray replied, "is that he knows of some secret way, probably leading to the place where he found his treasure."

"Yes, it must be that. And naturally he would keep that artfully concealed. Well, my dear Hugh, I'm afraid we can't do much more to-night. If this secret place is to be found we must search for it when the Baron is not there. It would spoil our chances altogether to let him see we suspect it, and, of course, if he is on the spot we can't hope to light upon it without coming upon him at the same time. Anyhow, we have found out something to-night."

Accordingly they groped their way out, leaving the underground chamber in its mysterious silence, and were soon climbing the slope of the ravine.

"What puzzles and worries me," Tilghman observed, when they had gained the high ground and could walk together, "is the idea of the second man."

"The substance of the shadow we saw?"

"Yes. Doubtless it was either Rassim or the Greek. Whichever it was, it is pretty certain that he was on his way to the underground workings. Consequently that he is in there still."

"And the Baron with him."

"And the Baron with him. Also that he has discovered, or has been shown, this secret place, into which both men have disappeared. It is not like the Baron to take a stranger, or a friend, for that matter, to share his secret, and thereby his wealth. That to me is the mystery."

"The Greek may have discovered it," Dalray suggested reflectively.

"He may," Tilghman replied. "But I think it is more likely that the second man was the Turk, and that when we saw his shadow he was on his way to keep an appointment with the Baron for the purpose of being let into the secret. After all, it might not mean much. No doubt de Gastard has taken by this all the best and the pick of the treasure, and finds it expedient to make a show of sharing the rest with an awkward customer like Rassim."

"Their dealings have no special interest for us," Dalray observed, "except, perhaps, so far as the haul is honest. After all, the man's villainy is likely to appear not so much in the process of grabbing the valuables he has found as in keeping the other men's hands off them."

"The Turk, backed by his official position, had him in a corner," said Tilghman. "Still I fancy our friend has native resource enough to slip out."

They had now reached the rocky undercliff where they had left their boat, and, pulling quietly along shore, soon reached the yacht.

The skipper had not yet turned in, but was smoking a last pipe on deck.

"Lovely nights we get in these parts, sir," he remarked to Tilghman, as the two friends came on board. "Looks quite romantic on the island just now. Did you fall in with the Baron, sir?"

"No," Tilghman replied; "we didn't fall in with him. Why?"

"Only he has been ashore to-night, sir. Leastways, he came off in the dinghey and went aboard the Euphrosyne about an hour or more ago."

Tilghman gave Dalray a look of caution. "Are you sure, Wriford?" he asked quietly.

"Quite sure, sir."

"I mean, that it was the Baron?"

"I'd swear to that, sir," the skipper answered with conviction. "He came along shore round the point where the old tower stands out. I was lying on deck forrad, smoking my pipe, and I saw him quite plain. It was the Baron, right enough. That's why I thought you might have seen him ashore."

"Was he alone?"

"Quite alone. Rowing himself, and in a fair hurry, it seemed to me. It seemed rather curious to me he should come round the point instead of putting off from the quay as usual."

"Yes. Perhaps he fancied a moonlight row," Tilghman suggested casually as they bade the skipper good-night and went down the companion.

"It is indeed curious," Dalray commented when they were alone in the cabin. "We certainly saw the Baron go into the tunnel, and are equally certain he did not come out while we were there. Yet he went on board the Euphrosyne over an hour ago. It adds to the element of mystery."

"Very considerably," Tilghman agreed seriously. "There is obviously something very strange and very inexplicable going on. More than we can hope to solve to-night, I'm afraid. Let's sleep on it. Good-night."

CHAPTER XXV.
The Tragedy Deepens.

The morrow, however, brought no feasible solution of the Baron's movements. He turned up as usual at the scene of their labors with all his accustomed suavity and plausible keenness in the work.

"It clearly behoves us," Tilghman had said to his friend, "to be more wary and circumspect in our movements since the Baron's are so incomprehensively surprising. One can never be sure now where he will not suddenly crop up. How he eluded our vigilance last night is to me a profound mystery."

"It is as well we know that he did so," Dalray replied, "since it puts us more than ever on our guard. It is our wits against his, and, dark as his methods may be, I don't suppose we have any idea of giving up the contest."

"Not exactly," Tilghman laughed. "We must rather go at it with redoubled zeal, and, above all, wariness."

It was a significant circumstance, which naturally both men noted, that Rassim Bey did not put in an appearance that morning.

"What has become of our friend the Bey?" the Baron observed lightly, half-humorously. "I'm afraid," he added, "he has not found the place quite so rich in treasures as he expected. But, like his class, he is quite incapable of understanding how men can work on at very considerable inconvenience for the pure love of archaeological science."

"A half-hearted worker he seemed," remarked Professor Chilworth. "It would not at all surprise me to hear that he has taken his departure from the island."

"No," the Baron agreed. "I fancy the real object of his coming has been to see what we were really doing, and whether with the permit to explore they had given away something commercially valuable."

"I can't say I particularly regret his absence," Huberta observed pointedly to Dalray.

The day, which promised to be quiet and dull enough, was not, however, to close without being marked by a startling and outrageous episode as unexpected in its nature as was its abrupt ending.

It came about in this wise.

Towards the close of the afternoon Tilghman and Dalray were working together in more or less desultory fashion near the ruins. The Professor was some distance off, prospecting on the side nearest the shore, while the Baron, who had been busy for the greater part of the day in the open, had disappeared into the subterranean galleries. Huberta, apparently tired and bored with waiting about, had strolled up towards the head of the ravine, and they had seen her descending towards the shore on the other side, beyond the point, where the coast took a sharp turn to the westward.

Suddenly a sound reached the two men, faint yet so distinct that they both by a common impulse paused in their work to listen.

It seemed to them that the cry was repeated, still more faintly this time. The same idea flashed to the minds of both that it might be Miss Chilworth. She was not to be seen; and the sound came from the direction in which she had gone. They threw down their tools, and started at a sharp run to cross the ravine and ascend the farther side. A few minutes brought them to the opposite height whence they could get a view of the curving shore. No one was to be seen.

It occurred to both men that unless Huberta had greatly prolonged her walk she ought to be in sight. But there was no sign of her.

"Let us go down to the shore and go after her," Dalray said, leading the way. "She must have gone in that direction. She would not have tried this way, knowing she could not get round the point."

They hurried down to the beach, and went forward at a sharp run. It took them some time to reach the next corner where the coast made another inward turn. From this point onwards it became more ragged and its formation irregular. Rocks jutted out seawards, forming barriers to sight and progress.

When the two men reached this point nothing was to be seen of Huberta.

"This way!" Dalray cried, making for a rough path which led up through a cleft in the rocks.

They soon found themselves in a narrow pass which, indeed, was the only way of getting round that part of the coast without taking to the water. Up this they sped, and in gaining the point where the path turned seawards and led down again, Dalray, who was in front, gave a cry.

"There she is! Quick, Leslie!"

Next moment Tilghman had gained a view of what had caused his friend's exclamation, and at the sight both men rushed forward impetuously.

About three hundred yards in front, where the narrow passage opened out, they saw Huberta Chilworth being half-led, half-dragged along the shore by some half-dozen islanders, who were hurrying her to a place where several kaiks were drawn up on the beach. Foul play was in its intention only too evident; the islanders, at any rate, most of those who made their living on the water, bore an evil reputation. Nominally following the industry of sponge-fishing, many were in reality pirates on a small scale, and ready for any villainy, as indeed, their looks testified. So in an instant Tilghman and Dalray had taken in the situation; kidnapping was quite in these ruffians' line.

Dalray rushed furiously down the steep, narrow path, with Tilghman close behind him. As they reached the end, where the rocks formed a natural gateway, and they were about to leap down to the beach, two evil-looking islanders, who had stood concealed behind the rocks, one on either side, suddenly sprang forward, with long formidable daggers in their hands, and barred their passage. "Back! back!" they exclaimed in a guttural patois, excitedly motioning the two Englishmen to return.

In a moment Tilghman had whipped out his revolver, and was in turn signing to the men, and with much greater prospect of being obeyed, that they should give way.

Revolver against dagger is a short argument; the scowling fellows drew aside, and the Englishmen sprang down to the beach and hurried on.

The principal object of their furious haste had been to overtake the group in front before they reached the boats. Once the kidnappers could get Huberta on board and push off, the chances of immediate rescue would be small.

But now to their surprise the pursuers noticed that the men were keeping well up the shore and not making for the boats. Their objective seemed to be a ravine, which ran up between the irregular cliffs, and of which the entrance could now be seen. But neither man slackened his pace, both were furiously eager to put an end to the outrage, and to let Huberta know that help was at hand.

It now became apparent that the kidnapping party were aware of their approach. The two ruffians who had tried to stop them were close on their heels and were shouting to their comrades.

The crew in front thereupon hurried forward at a quicker pace and speedily disappeared among the rocks. Tilghman and Dalray, hot in pursuit, were quickly gaining on them. But their precipitancy defeated its own object. Coming up to the rocks, the two men dashed in among them, shouting to Huberta, whom they knew must be close at hand. As they hurried forward, intent on but one object, there was a sudden shout, and next moment they found themselves attacked by several islanders who had waited in ambush for their coming.

Tilghman's revolver was ready, but as he was threatening his assailants with it, and before he could heed Dalray's warning cry, he was seized from behind and his arm struck up, so that the weapon was fired in the air. Perhaps it was as well; for had the shot taken effect on one of the gang Tilghman would inevitably have been stabbed next moment. As it was the long, deadly knives were flourished excitedly in a proximity too close to be pleasant. Under this stress, and being hopelessly outnumbered and overpowered, Tilghman was disarmed, and, with Dalray, made prisoner.

From among the rocks a tall man now appeared gesticulating. He seemed the leader of the gang, and Tilghman recognised him as the man whom a few nights before they had seen in the company of Rassim Bey.

By this fellow's orders the two Englishmen were now roughly hurried forward, the leader signing furiously to his men to make haste. The captives were able at least to comfort themselves with the thought that they were being taken in the same direction as Huberta Chilworth. They would be near her, they hoped, although what help they could give her was not exactly apparent.

Suddenly the captain of the band, who, with body bent forward, was hurrying up the rocky path in front of them, stopped, turned and made a swift sign, drawing his hand across his eyes. In a moment two scarfs were produced, and the captives blindfolded. In this uncomfortable state they were led on at a half-running pace, being held up over the rough ground by strong arms underneath their own.

This disagreeable progression did not last long. After about four or five minutes the path descended sharply, then after some hundred paces they halted.

For a minute or so there was silence. The two Englishmen, their arms tightly held, could see or hear nothing. Then with startling suddenness a strange hubbub arose. The captives were sensible of the swift movement of those about them. There were excited cries which seemed to have a character less of fierceness than of terror. The hands that pinioned their arms seemed to shake, a deep, resonant voice called out some unintelligible words, and then the prisoners found their arms released.

Naturally the first impulse was to tear off the bandages, and this is what they saw:

They were standing in a hollow like a great pit in the rocks which, save for a narrow inlet, quite encompassed the place. In front of them was what seemed the entrance to a cavern, and here a group of men were standing with an expression of fear and bewilderment on their repulsive countenances. They were pointing and gesticulating towards the cave, and the curious part of the sight was that their notions and demeanor did not at all tally with the business on which they were obviously engaged.

Near the cave in the midst of a group of the men stood Huberta Chilworth. She, too, had been blindfolded, and was now removing the bandage from her eyes. As she looked round and saw her two friends, she gave a cry of relief and ran towards them, they hastening forward to meet her.

"What is this? What is going to happen?" she asked apprehensively.

"I can't make it out," Tilghman answered, looking shrewdly round for an explanation.

The big man—the leader—now came towards them. "You can go," he said roughly, in guttural French. "That way." And he waved his hand towards the outlet.

"Perhaps you will explain the meaning of this outrage," Tilghman said sternly.

The man made a hideous grimace which was presumably intended to express ignorance and disavowal of responsibility.

"It lies there," he returned gruffly, pointing to the cave. "Go and see."

Tilghman immediately went in the direction indicated, and Dalray, with a word to Huberta, followed him.

The men standing about turned and eyed them curiously as they advanced. A few paces brought them to the cave, and a glance within gave the explanation of the mystery. For a few yards inside the mouth of the cavern lay on the bloodstained sand a dead man. It was the body of Rassim Bey.

(To be continued.)

All the success that men have with the dairy cow comes from studying the business.

THE POULTRY YARD.

POULTRY CRANKS.

A poultry crank or faddist is a man who has a special liking for one kind of fowl. We owe a great deal to poultry cranks. They are the men who have improved the different breeds up to a point that makes poultry-raising profitable. It would be difficult for anyone to make money out of a mongrel flock such as we were accustomed to seeing thirty or forty years ago. Cranks are the men who have bred up to the 200-egg hen.

Cranks are the men who have spent their time and money building all sorts and fashions of poultry-houses, until the different theories have been thoroughly worked out and the fallacies exploded. It may be that cranks have leaned a little too hard in faddy directions at times; for instance, in the color of feathers. But plumage is improved by a close study of feathers. When a man studies the color of feathers he soon begins to find out what makes feathers. He learns that feathers don't make the bird; it is the bird that makes the feathers; and he cannot have nice plumage without a good, vigorous constitution. It does not do a man any harm to study how to feather a bird properly. It is a mighty good lesson for anyone.

There may be some freak fancy fowls on exhibition at the poultry shows, and it is easy to say that these are the results of crank interference with nature. While a man is learning how to produce a freak, he is extending his knowledge of poultry in general, and the world is very likely to get the benefit of his investigations sooner or later. There is room in this world for a whole lot of cranks and faddists. They do a lot of good.

GOOD LAYING STOCK.

To breed a flock of heavy layers the most important point is to have the foundation stock vigorous, healthy, and of strong vitality, and to maintain and increase these qualities. This is more important than all else. It is the foundation on which we have to build, and without this one quality of vigor we have nothing. With it we have everything else except the laying trait, and that can be bred into the flock. We have eggs that hatch, chicks that live, and pullets that are capable of making heavy layers, if we can get the laying habit bred into them, and it is much easier to breed weakly and anaemic birds. A profusion of rich, warm blood carries heat for the development of the egg-producing organs, and we have then to select the best layers and sexually strong males to produce a prolific race. To keep fowls vigorous they must be in the open air as much as possible.

Pullets that have been improperly grown can never become good layers, no matter how well they are handled afterwards. By good feeding the body may be brought to normal size, but the internal organs have ripened without making the growth they should, and no amount of food will bring them into more than normal activity. The time to prepare for eggs is when the chicks are hatched, and from then on they should have such care as will bring the pullets to laying at the proper time, fully developed, and with strong, vigorous constitutions.

THE VALUE OF RECORDS.

Within recent years farmers have come to recognise the need of conducting all of their operations in a business-like way, and it is pleasing to note that poultry-raising is no longer excepted. Some five or six years ago some inquiries as to what should be considered a good year's work for the average farm hen led to the discussion of the matter of keeping poultry records. This brought out the fact that it is a comparatively easy matter to keep track of what the flock is doing throughout the entire year, and since that time we have had a good many flock records for publication. It is unnecessary to say that poultry-farmers generally recognise that there is value as well as satisfaction to be derived from a knowledge of what the flock is doing from month to month. From such a record they are able to figure out just what the hens average, whether they are paying for feed and care or not, and no little interest in the proposition is developed through the effort that will be made the following year to increase this average. It is perfectly possible to work improvement from year to year, if one is observing enough to determine which are the drones of the flock, and to thus gradually weed them out.

FEEDING HENS MEAT.

Lean meat, or its equivalent in an insect life, is one of the essentials in egg production. If meat in some form were supplied daily, there would be sufficient eggs secured over and above the number that would be obtained without the use of meat, not only to pay for the meat, but to increase the profits. It is the most available food product that has yet been discovered to supply fowls the elements most difficult to get from grain and most needed to make bone, muscle, and feathers, to make eggs, to support health and vitality. It tones up the system. It makes eggs more fertile, develops earlier broilers and layers, makes red combs and gloss plumage, and enhances the profits.

IT'S WORK THAT WINS.

A great many who have failed to make a success in life start a poultry business, thinking that there they can easily crown their efforts with success and wealth. They could not make a greater mistake. As a rule, anyone who cannot make a comfortable living at anything else cannot do so at this. Sound business principles must be applied, along with plenty of hard work, to ensure a paying business.

JUST A CHEAP ONE.

He had made a speech in favor of his political candidate and against the other, and when he had finished a friend stepped forward and shook hands with him and said:

"I want to compliment you on your effort. It was great."

"Then you liked my remarks, eh?"

"They were bang up. I didn't know it was in you to rate the way you did."

"Oh, I did fairly well, I guess. But you must remember at the same time that this was only a cheap speech. The regular orator failed them, and they rang me in for three pounds. Of course, I could not spread myself for that. I wish I had been making a regular ten-pound speech. If I had been I should have called the opposition candidate a liar."

"I should have shown his utter unfitness for office.

"I should have proved that his election would ruin the country.

"I should have advanced statistics to chill the blood.

"I should have appealed to my hearers not to bring about a state of anarchy and bankruptcy.

"I should have summoned every patriot in the audience to go to the polls early and die for British liberty.

"I should have trotted out the Union Jack and all the other paraphernalia, and waved them around until men would have busted a lung cheering for them.

"As I said, this was only a cheap effort—a few remarks for three pounds; but if they have pleased you and strengthened your belief in our cause, why—why——"

And they drank together and figured out that the country was saved again.

There is nothing better or scarcer than perfectly satisfactory neighbors, relatives, or friends.

AMUSING INCIDENTS.

A "Cutting" Story.

A major in a certain regiment has a great contempt for incapacity of any kind, and is somewhat impatient.

A sergeant complained to him that he could get no man to undertake the duty of barber to the company.

"Is there no gardener in the company?" asked the major, testily. "See if you can find one, and send him to me."

The man was duly sent; but, on receiving orders to act as barber, ventured to expostulate.

"Great guns!" cried the major. "If you can cut grass, you can cut hair! Go and do it!"

Why Willie was Polite.

Mrs. Smith and a friend were holding a conversation together, when little three-year-old Willie came in with some chocolate. He asked his mother and her friend to take a piece, but both refused.

After the lady had gone Mrs. Smith called her son to her, and said:

"I am pleased with you for being polite, when Mrs. Green said 'No,' not to ask her again."

"It wasn't that, mother, I did it for," replied Willie, "it was because I was afraid she might say 'Yes' if I asked her twice."

Didn't Come Off This Time.

The hungry man finished his diner, and asked the waiter to call up the proprietor.

"Last time I was here," he said, when restaurant keeper arrived, "you had me kicked out because I could not pay."

"Really," said the proprietor, "I had forgotten. But let bygones be bygones."

"By all means," said the diner; "I merely reminded you of the occasion because—er—well, I'm afraid I shall have to trouble you again."

It did not act, however, for a policeman was fetched, and that dinner cost the smart diner a month's imprisonment.

What Then?

"'Urry on, please!" urged the guard rushing along the platform, and slamming the doors.

The stout old lady struggled to enter a narrow carriage doorway, but struggled in vain.

"'Urry on, there!" yelled the guard, approaching her with fire in his eyes. "'Urry on! Git in edgeways, mum! Git in edgeways!"

The would-be traveller showed a red, perspiring face over her plump shoulder, and regarded the official with an angry glare.

"An' wot," she snapped bitterly, ceasing her endeavors for the moment, "wot if I ain't got no edge?"

Crushing.

During the encampment of several regiments of soldiers in a certain district the wood and turf used for cooking purposes were carted by the neighboring farmers.

One day a donkey-cart full of turf was brought in, the driver being a country lad.

As a regimental band was playing, he stood in front of the donkey and held the animal tightly by the head.

Some of the "smart ones" gathered round, highly pleased, and the wit of the party asked why he "held his brother so tightly."

The reply was crushing:

"I'm afraid he might 'list."

Not Strictly Enforced.

A gentleman, detained at a country railway station one bitterly cold night, and feeling chilly, went into the waiting-room, where a cheerful fire was burning.

Finding time heavy on his hands, he lit a cigar to beguile the tedium of waiting.

Just then a porter entered, and the gentleman remarked, pointing to the legend above the mantelpiece ("Smoking strictly prohibited"):

"I suppose that rule is not strictly enforced?"

"Oh, no, sir!" said the porter, meaningly. "Neither is the one underneath"—indicating another which read:

"Railway servants are not allowed to receive gratuities."

He got one.

Any Rope Would Do.

Sometimes in the heat of a political meeting, when excitement is running high, speakers are apt to say things which are taken to have quite a different meaning to that intended. Such an experience happened to a speaker at an open-air meeting recently.

He expressed the sincere hope that "the Liberals, the Free Traders, and the Labor Party might hang together and the result would be grand."

"Ay, that it would!" shouted an interested listener; "and the sooner the better; a lot of us wish that."

"But, my friends," said the speaker, "I don't mean what my friend does; I hope they may hang together in accord and concord."

"I don't care what new-fangled sort of a cord it is," retorted the interrupter, "so long as it is strong enough to hold the lot of 'em."

Taught Him a Lesson.

A certain class of shopkeepers try to force their wares upon passers-by. A traveller determined to teach one of these a lesson. The offender was a clothing dealer, and had a way of almost dragging people into his place.

One day the traveller stopped for a moment to examine a coat hanging in front of the establishment, when out darted the clothier, who asked:

"Won't you try on one of these coats?"

"I don't know but I will," responded the traveller, consulting his watch. "I have some time to spare. Yes."

He went in; but no matter how often he found his fit, he called for more coats. Finally, when he had tried on thirty or more, he looked at his watch, resumed his own garment, and walked out, saying, as he went:

"Good-day, old chap. I won't charge anything for what I've done. I believe in a man who'll oblige another when he can. If I'm ever this way again, and you have any more coats to try on, I'll do all I can to help you."

Interesting Information.

"We can learn from all men, even from the humblest," said a well-known detective, at a police banquet. "Turn a deaf ear to no man. The lowliest tramp may have information of incredible interest for you.

"I well remember," continued the detective, "a walk I once took. As I strode along, proud and happy, a rose in my button-hole, and a gold-headed cane in my hand, a drunken man had the impudence to stop me.

"'Ain't you Mr. A.?' he said.

"'Yes,' said I. 'What of it?'

"'Mr. A., the detective?' he hiccoughed.

"'Yes, yes. Who are you?' I asked, impatiently.

"'Mr. A.,' said the untidy wretch, as he laid his hand on my shoulder, to keep himself from falling, 'I'll tell you who I am, Mr. A. I'm—hic—the husband of your washerwoman.'

"'Well, what of that?' said I.

"My scorn brought a sneer to the man's lips, and he said:

"'You see, you don't know everything, Mr. A.'

"'What don't I know?' I demanded.

"'Well,' said he, 'you don't know that—hic—I'm wearin' one of your new shirts.'"

Hicks: My wife is very methodical. She's always got a place for everything, and everything in its place.

Wicks: So has mine, but I can never find the place.

A BRAVE SOLDIER.

His Sixth Medal.

He had been put out as a vidette, or scout, and for hours he had peered into the darkness around him to watch for the slightest sign of danger—listened like one who realised that the wily Arab of the desert steals upon his prey with all the silent cunning of the American Indian. As the stars of night began to pale before the advance of dawn he felt like one reprieved. While he watched the enemy had, for once, seemed to sleep. Daylight would bring a continuation of the march, and every hour would witness a skirmish; but even a battle does not unnerve a man like standing vidette on a lone and dangerous post.

What! Has he become blind? Daylight now covers the desert, and the vidette is looking towards the camp of the night. There is no camp. At midnight he left 800 of his comrades. This morning there is no sign of life. He looks to the right, but there is no vidette. He looks to the left—no living thing meets his eyes.

He stands and peers, and stares, and blinks. Is he awake? If so, is he blind? Has the night played some strange trick on him in this land of strange things and strange fancies?

He moves towards the spot where the night halt was made, but he advances slowly and cautiously, and he hesitates now and then as if to reason with himself. Ah! he is neither blind nor daft. Here is a cap—there a belt—here a rope—there a sack, to prove that the camp had been here. Here are the tracks of men and camels—there a broad trail leading away to the south.

In the stillness of the night a messenger had come to the little band, ordering an instant change of march. Quietly, and without alarm, the men had been turned out, the beasts made ready, and the videttes called in. All but one! In the hurry and the darkness he had been overlooked.

Leaning on his carbine, and looking over the trail left to show the change of march, the soldier reasoned it all out. His command had been gone for hours. He was alone and on foot. Overtake them! He smiled grimly at the thought. The sun and sand and thirst of Egypt were as deadly enemies as the spears and bullets of the Arabs. He had neither food nor water. A hundred miles of burning sands and hot winds lay between him and a blade of grass—a single drop of water.

The soldier turned to survey the desert plain. To the east, nothing but sand; to the north, nothing but sand; to the west, nothing but sand; to the south—ah! He straightened up, shaded his eyes with his hand, and for a long minute continued his gaze, then he let his arm fall. A score of Arabs were riding down upon him.

Without undue haste—with dignity befitting an old veteran—the soldier took from his breast and pinned to his coat a medal. Upon its bright side were the words, "The Boer War." He pinned on another, which said, "For Services in Zululand." There was a third—a fourth—a fifth. In his twenty years of soldier life the old man had a thousand times been a target for bullets. This was his last campaign. Death was riding down upon him, but he would die as a soldier—as a British soldier.

When the savage horsemen were half a mile away they halted. The old soldier was ready and waiting. There was no thought of him being taken a prisoner—no thought of surrender. There was a moment for consultation, and then the bunch of horsemen deployed in line and advanced at a gallop.

Steady, now! Crack! Crack! Crack! Two horsemen tumbled from their saddles—a third reeled about in his seat like a man mortally hit. Before another shot could be fired the murderous lances drank blood, and the old soldier lay dead.

On the hot sands, his face upturned to his foes, and his medals shining as never before in a morning sun, lay the old man, dead. And then, not by the hands of friends—not by the hands of comrades—a sixth medal was placed upon his brawny breast. It was not of gold or silver, but something of more priceless value. It was the words of an Arab chieftain:—

"Comrades, a brave man lies here!"

A BRIDE'S RIDE ON A COW.

On December 29, 1907, in the French village of Noverey, Mdlle. Doche was married to M. Granger, a land-owner. The bridal party assembled for the usual feast at a friend's house, the table being spread in a large room over a stable. There were forty guests, and the floor of the chamber was put to a more severe strain than it could endure. Suddenly, when the merriment was at its height, an ominous cracking sound was heard, and a moment later the floor gave way, the whole party being precipitated into the stable, with the victuals and drink. As the bruised and surprised guests rose to their feet, they naturally looked round to see what had become of the newly-married couple, only to rub their eyes in astonishment as they saw the buxom bride disapearing through the stable doorway at a rapid rate, bestriding a cow. The young lady had fallen right on to the back of the animal, which promptly broke loose and bolted, the bride holding on in sheer fright. Across the fields ran the cow, hotly pursued by the nimbler members of the party, and made for a litle copse. Into the copse rushed its pursuers pell-mell, when they beheld the young woman suspended by her tresses to the branch of a tree. She was soon rescued from her uncomfortable and dangerous position, and, on recovering from the shock, laughed gaily at her adventure.

It was in the drawing-room after dinner that they discussed an absent maiden friend's bad points with the usual grim and scathing glee. Having thoroughly dissected her personal appearance, they next paid attention to her mental shortcomings.

"She is a very singular girl," spake the one.

"Yes, indeed," responded her companion; "but, then, that is not her fault, for I never saw a girl so anxious to be plural."

That man must have been a bit of a wag who, when advertising in a matrimonial paper for a "nice young girl, of affectionate disposition, willing to make a good-looking bachelor happy," added the words, "Previous experience not necessary."

A rich stockbroker returned from luncheon one afternoon at about half-past three. He took off his frock-coat and top-hat. He lighted a superb Havana. Then he leaned back in his revolving chair, and put his patent leathers on his desk, among the pens, inkpots, and business papers.

"I tell you, Miss Smith," he said—and he directed a beaming smile upon his beautiful, golden-haired stenographer—"I tell you, the world looks different to a man when he's got a bottle of champagne inside of him."

The young girl's lip curled.

"Yes, sir," she replied; "and he looks different to the world."

Mrs. Clancy: Yis, Mrs. Muggins, Pat and I part to mate no more. Oi wint to the hospital to ax after him. 'Oi want to see me husband,' sez Oi; 'the man that got blowed up.' 'Yez can't,' sez the doocther; 'he's under the influence of Ann Esthetics.' 'Oi don't know the lady,' sez Oi, mighty dignified loike; 'but if me lawful wedded husband can act loike that whin he's at death's door, Oi'll have a divorce from him.'"

ACCUSED OF MURDER

Or

SAVED BY AN ADVERTISEMENT.

"Have you heard of the accident that has happened to old Mr. Goldsworthy?" asked my wife, in a hurried, trembling way, the moment I entered the house.

"Not I! What accident?"

"He fell, or threw himself, last night from the folding-doors of the loft leading from his bedroom on the third floor of his house in Newman-passage, and must have been killed on the spot."

She was partly reading from a newspaper in her hand.

"How dreadful! His strange habit of walking in his sleep has resulted fatally at last."

"So the paper hints," replied my wife, still with the same odd quivering of the lip; "but you know it was Charlotte's care that her father's bedroom window should be securely fastened after he had retired each night, either by herself or her husband. Ah! there is his knock again!" turning pale as death. "He has been here twice before."

"Whose knock?" I hastily demanded. "Who has been here twice before?"

"Charlotte's husband, Richard Warren, to request your presence at the inquest to-morrow morning—ha!"

Before I could speak, Richard Warren staggered in, and dropped upon the nearest chair.

"What in the name of Heaven is the matter, Richard?" I said, finding that the ashy lips moved not, although the haggard eyes were bent upon mine with eager questioning. He strove to answer, but the overpowering agitation under which he labored choked his words. My wife, with readier presence of mind, though more alarmed than myself, poured out a tumbler of brandy, which Warren eagerly swallowed.

It seemed to steady his nerves somewhat, and presently he said, in a palpitating voice:

"I—I wish you to attend the inquest to-morrow morning."

"On whose behalf—yours? Why, what on earth ails the man?"

"One word, Robert," he, after a few moments of unquiet silence, again murmured. "One word: Charlotte, my wife, has, you know, been ill—she is mad!"

"Mad! Your wife mad!"

"Yes, she must be so. And tell me, is—is a wife's evidence admissible, even supposing she were deemed sane, against—— Merciful God! They are come! Have, as I suspected—dreaded—dogged, tracked me hither!"

A light, single knock at the street door occasioned this wild break off, and Warren awaited what might follow in an agony of fear. He was not long kept in suspense. There were hasty footsteps on the stairs, and two detectives abruptly entered the room. Warren looked wildly round as if in search of some outlet for escape—saw none, and would have fallen but for the iron grasp of the detectives.

I comprehended, but then dimly only, that Richard Warren was grievously suspected of having robbed his father-in-law, of hurling him, after a fierce struggle, from the loft doors into the court below.

"But for his wife's asseverations, which cannot, however, be made legally available, I doubt that—— But here is the cab," said the officer. "Now, sir, if you please, at once, and without any bother."

Their prisoner was hurried away without any further preface, and I had barely sufficient readiness of mind to say, in answer to his mute appeal, that I would not fail to be present at the inquest on the morrow. A minute afterwards I felt an impulse to follow, shake him by the hand, and whisper a few words of hope and confidence in an all-seeing, over-ruling Providence; so quickly did the testimony of his blameless life weigh down the presumptive evidence of guilt; but he was gone before my tardy purpose could be effected.

My wife and I were so utterly confounded by what had occurred, that it was a long time before we could reason coherently upon the subject, or advise as to what should be done. That Richard Warren, of all men in the world, should be accused of such a crime was, we both heartily agreed, marvellous—incredible. He and I were born in the same parish; I had never lost sight of him from his boyhood, and knew that he had ever been a dutiful son, an attached husband, and an honest, industrious citizen, though not one with whom the world had gone smoothly.

His trade was that of a herald-painter; that is, he painted arms and devices upon coach-panels, and when he came to London had found employment at a coach-builder's in Long Acre. He saved a considerable sum from his earnings, and was thereby emboldened to marry Charlotte Goldsworthy—an amiable young woman, and to furnish a house at Hampstead, with a view to letting furnished apartments. This latter speculation proved more difficult of accomplishment than he had imagined, as I well knew, from having been consulted by him relative to several debt difficulties, in which, from the furniture having cost much more than was anticipated, he had become temporarily involved. To this hard struggle to save himself from being pushed to the wall by one or two impatient creditors, I attribute the great error he committed in not insuring his property—every shilling, as it were, of vital importance in the up-hill game he had to play. The neglect, however occasioned, was a fatal one. He had let his first floor to a disabled veteran, who had seen active service. This gentleman, on the night of the anniversary of one of the battles in which he had been engaged, not only had his windows lit up in very profuse style, but drank so many bumpers in honor of the Army that on retiring to bed he contrived—instead of extinguishing the lights as he intended—to set fire to the window and bed curtains; and so swiftly did the flames gain head, that before efficient assistance arrived, the house was a mass of fire, and poor Warren's furniture, save a few articles, utterly consumed!

This was a cruel blow in itself, and greatly aggravated by the falling of a blazing beam upon his right arm whilst he was engaged in endeavoring to rescue some portion of his worldly substance from the flames. He became, in consequence, an inmate of Middlesex Hospital for between two and three months, and when discharged "cured," found that his right hand had lost the cunning which had enabled him to gain high wages as a herald-painter, and that nothing was left to him but a chance of earning an existence in the much-worse-paid calling of an ordinary coach-painter. Even in this lower mechanical walk, the accident he had met with prevented him from acquiring quickness, or more than a barely average skill, and he was sinking rapidly lower and lower in the world, when his father-in-law, Bartholomew Goldsworthy, came very unexpectedly forward to the rescue.

Bartholomew Goldsworthy was an odd, wayward, eccentric kind of mortal—exceedingly deaf, half-blind, a cripple in his arms, and, moreover, addicted in his latter years to a growing habit of talking aloud to himself, and of walking in his sleep. In fact, his failing mind dwelt continually day and night—and every hour of the day and night—upon one idea—that of his money, and the means whereby it might be added to, to the exclusion of all other thoughts, except love for his daughter Charlotte, which one saw from time to time gleam through the thick crust of worldliness that enveloped him. I believe that her union with Richard Warren never had his hearty approbation, and I always thought, oddly as it may sound after what I have just written of his affection for his daughter, that his determining motive in consenting to her marriage was that her going away to another home would necessarily relieve him from the cost of her maintenance—a seeming paradox, no doubt, but scarcely more so than to grudge one's self, as he did, the food and clothing essential to one's own existence.

This penurious old man possessed considerable house-property in Goodge street, Tottenham Court road, and contiguous localities, and was himself domiciled in a roomy, tumble-down house of his own, in Newman-passage, Newman-street. He now proposed that Warren and his wife should have apartments therein, free of charge, and further suggested that as he had all the upper part of a large, light workshop in the same court untenanted, his son-in-law might set up business there as coach-painter to the trade.

The offer was gladly accepted by Warren and his wife, and I was told that matters were beginning to wear a brighter aspect with them; Charlotte's untiring ministrations to her father's increasing infirmities gradually softening, as there could be little doubt they would, the old man's flinty miserliness, though not yet to the extent of effectually assisting Richard Warren with money in his business. Goldsworthy's propensity to sleep-walking had, I knew, increased with years, and but a few months previous to his untimely end he had been caught deliberately unfastening, in the dead of night, the very folding-doors through which he had now fallen, or been hurled. They were always afterwards carefully secured at night. Sometimes his bedroom door was locked on the outside; but to this precaution he strongly objected from a nervous dread of fire.

This brief summary of our acquaintance with Richard Warren will sufficiently account for the consternation with which his arrest on a charge of murder overwhelmed us both. Mrs. Warren had been not long before confined of a still-born child; fever had, we knew, been apprehended; and after much cogitation on the subject, we concluded that some wild expressions uttered by the wife in her frenzy, aggravated, it might likely enough be, by an unguarded communication of her father's dreadful death, had led to the apprehension of her husband.

I did not sleep much that night, and my first business in the morning was to see Mr. M'Intyre, solicitor, of Southampton buildings, and engage his services in behalf of Richard Warren. I then strode on towards Newman-street with a double purpose in my mind—one, to obtain, if possible, an interview with Mrs. Warren, the other to get myself, as I knew how, called upon the inquest. I found not only Newman-passage, but the immediate neighborhood, crowded with gossipers and idlers of both sexes, all eagerly commenting on the exaggerated and varying rumors afloat, relative to the cause of Bartholomew Goldsworthy's death, but all mainly agreeing in this—that but for some revelation of the wife of Richard Warren, no suspicion of foul play would in all probability have been entertained.

I could not obtain speech of Mrs. Warren; no one for some very peremptory reason, it appeared, being permitted access to her, except a nurse and medical attendant. I had no difficulty, however, in getting myself placed on the jury, which, on the arrival of the coroner, who was not more than half an hour behind his time, entered upon its functions.

The body was viewed, according to precedent in such cases, and as far as I could see, exhibited no external marks of injury that might not have been caused by the fall from such height upon the paving of the court-yard. The coroner, however, and one or two of the jury, looked serenely solemn and mysterious, and as soon as we were settled in the room selected for the jury's accommodation, and some trifling evidence had been adduced, the coroner directed Charlotte Warren to be summoned. Mr. M'Intyre objected instantly.

"If," as he understood the case, "that person's husband were accused of the murder—if, indeed, any murder had taken place—his wife could not be permitted to give evidence which might affect him, favorably or otherwise."

The coroner replied that Richard Warren was detained as a measure of precaution only, and that, although if sent to trial on a capital or other charge, whatever his wife might say could not be used against him; yet in that court of unfettered inquiry as to the cause of the death of the deceased, they had a right to hear everybody likely to throw light upon the matter. A coroner's court was essentially an open one, etc.

This was legally correct enough. The order to bring forward Mrs. Warren was repeated, and after a delay of about ten minutes, she was supported into the room by a nurse and assistant, and seated in a chair almost in a fainting state. It seemed a great cruelty to force her at such a time, and under such circumstances, to confront the rude scrutiny of an inquest-room; but the coroner was obviously bent upon the point, and after a short pause the examination proceeded. Richard Warren, I should state, was not present, the coroner not deeming his presence essential in the present stage of inquiry. A whispered caution from him a minute or two previous to Mrs. Warren's entrance informed me, moreover, that she was ignorant of her husband being in custody.

The statement from Mrs. Warren, elicited with much difficulty, was in substance this:—

"On the previous evening she had found herself much better, and her husband about nine o'clock left her to proceed something more than a mile beyond Hampstead, on particular business. About eleven o'clock the nurse went home, promising not to be gone more than an hour. Mrs. Warren supposed she must have been some time asleep afterwards, when she was awakened by a noise of struggling and half-stifled cries in the adjoining bedroom—her father's. Starting up in bed, she drew a curtain from before a small window in the partition which looked into Mr. Goldsworthy's room, and saw by the dim, uncertain moonlight, her father, in his nightdress, struggling in the grasp of a man. She was so terrified that although she strove with all her might to call for assistance, she could not do so, and remembered nothing more till restored to consciousness by the nurse, a little before one o'clock."

There was a dead silence for a few minutes after Mrs. Warren ceased speaking, broken by the coroner, who said, in his mildest tones:

"You noticed the dress, I believe, Mrs. Warren—the coat, at least—which the man you saw struggling with your father wore?"

How shall I describe the sudden, flashing change that passed over the wife's pale features upon hearing this question? In a moment she had hidden her face in her outspread palms, whilst a convulsive shuddering visibly passed through and shook her frame.

Mr. M'Intyre again essayed to interpose, but was peremptorily silenced by the coroner, who tartly reminded him that he had no right to speak, save by courtesy, or as a witness in that court. He had no locus standi furthermore, his client, if he had one, not being formally charged before them.

Having thus delivered himself, the coroner proceeded with his inquisition, mildly, as before.

"You told the nurse, I hear, Mrs. Warren, during the first agitated moments that followed your restoration to consciousness, that the robber and assassin wore a light brown great-coat, with large pearl buttons—the same kind of coat, in fact," added the coroner, in a tone subdued involuntarily by the terrible suggestion his words conveyed, "the same kind of coat, in fact, that your husband usually wears?"

The convulsive tremor by which the wretched wife was shaken increased in violence, but no words replied to the coroner's question.

"Nay," persisted that functionary, "you have been heard, when no doubt fancying no one was within earshot, to directly accuse your husband to his face of being the assassin of——"

"It could not be!" screamed the wife, distractedly, and springing from the chair to her feet. "It is false; or, if true, I must have been crazed—mad! O God!——"

She had fainted, and was carried out of the room in a state of rigid insensibility.

Dr. Henslop, of Newman-street, remarked that although there had been at one time apprehension of fever in Mrs. Warren's case, he was quite sure her mind had never been in the slightest degree affected.

The next witness was Martha Riddel, the nurse; she had returned to Newman court at about a quarter to one, having been detained at home longer than she intended. Just as she reached Mr. Goldsworthy's door, she noticed the shadow of a man, as she thought, in Mr. Warren's workshop, passing quickly about, and now and then stooping down; once she thought there were two persons in the loft, but on looking more attentively, concluded that the dim moonlight had deceived her; she wondered rather that Mr. Warren, who she knew had gone to Hampstead, should be in his workshop at that time of night, and thought she would mention it to Mrs. Warren, whom, on entering the house, which she did with a latchkey, and proceeding upstairs to her bedroom, she found lying across the bed, fainted away. Upon coming to herself she seemed to be for some minutes in a kind of distracted maze, and told witness, first, that a man in her husband's coat—then that her husband himself—had, she was sure, robbed and murdered her father. Witness then gave the alarm, just upon which Mr. Warren himself came hurrying upstairs, looking, witness thought, very pale and scared. She was sure he had on the light brown great-coat he generally wore. Mrs. Warren fainted away again at the sight of her husband, and the house was soon afterwards filled with people.

In reply to Mr. M'Intyre, who, by the way, had obtained a brief interview with Richard Warren, she said that the great-coat was always hanging up in the passage when not worn by Mr. Warren; that the street door opened with a very common sort of latchkey, and that Purfleet and his journeymen, who were packing-case makers, and worked in the lower part of Mr. Goldsworthy's workshop, were quite familiar with the house and its ways. She certainly had thought at one time that she saw the shadows of two men crossing to and fro, and stooping down, in the upper floor of the workshop, but had come to the conclusion that she must have been mistaken. Mr. Goldsworthy's bureau, she further deposed, as well as a large tin box, kept in his bedroom, had been wrenched open, and all the gold and silver they contained, supposed to be a large sum, carried off. She further added that the key of the loft-door was, she believed, generally carried by Mr. Warren in his coat-pocket.

The detective gave the finishing stroke to this evidence. In the tightened grasp of the deceased he had found a small piece of light brown cloth, matching precisely with a rent in Richard Warren's great-coat, and torn off, as the witness supposed, if what had been stated were true, in the death-struggle. He had also discovered about ten pounds in gold and silver concealed under the floor of Richard Warren's workshop, but the amount carried away, he was bound to add, was known to exceed five hundred pounds.

This was more than sufficient, and the inquest was adjourned to the next day, when Richard Warren would be present, and the evidence he read over and subscribed—a needless ceremony, like the presence of the accused at these altogether ex-parte proceedings. Richard Warren's statement in explanation did not in the least mend his position. He had gone to a friend living beyond Hampstead to borrow a sum of money for a pressing occasion, but judging on arriving there, from the closed shutters and the absence of lights, that his friend had retired with his family for the night, he refrained from disturbing him, and returned home empty-handed, as he went. He had neglected to take his great-coat with him, but on re-entering his home, and, seeing it hanging as usual in the passage, he had slipped it on, as he knew his wife would be vexed if she knew he had gone out on such a bitter night without it.

It was easy to see that neither the coroner nor one of the jury believed a word of this simple story, and a verdict of "Wilful Murder" against Richard Warren was quickly returned.

The inquest verdict would, I doubted not, be ratified by the Old Bailey jury. The wife's evidence and reported expressions had been printed and enlarged upon in the newspapers, and however gravely the judge might warn the jurors to banish from their minds all they had previously heard—which they could about as easily do as banish their own identity from their minds—would, I was quite certain, ensure Richard Warren's conviction, if the evidence that could be legally adduced at the trial were of the faintest, flimsiest kind—which, however, it was not by any means, as will have been readily seen.

Still there were many weak as well as favorably suggestive points, about the evidence. Where, in the time, could he have effectually concealed the large sum in gold and silver that had been carried off? The ten pounds that had been discovered was obviously a plant, and the two figure shadows which the woman Riddel had, I felt convinced, seen, to whom could they point but to Purfleet and his man, who were both familiar with the ways of the Goldsworthy house, intimate with Warren, and had access by a common door to his worshop?

Mr. M'Intyre coincided perfectly in my opinion, and Mrs. Warren, who was half-distracted with grief, remorse, and dread, being enabled by her father's will, bequeathing all his estate, real and personal, to her exclusively, to furnish us with ample funds, another detective's services were specially engaged, and other springs carefully set to ensnare and convict the real murderer or murderers.

No positive result was, however, for a long time obtained, and the Old Bailey session was already unpleasantly near, when it was suggested, as a last resource, that a reward of £200 should be offered for the discovery of the perpetrator of the crime, payable to any accomplice in the deed except the actual murderer.

"This may, perhaps," said the detective, "cause that Jenkins, Master Purfleet's journeyman, who has so suddenly vanished, to turn up; and, at all events, it is worth trying."

It was tried, and bore fruit with magical celerity. The bills had not been posted twelve hours when the detective's touts apprised him that Purfleet was selling his trade-stock for anything he could get for it, evidently with the intention to bolt. A closer watch than ever was kept upon the fellow's motions, who, on the evening of the third day from the issue of the menacing advertisement, betook himself to Plymouth by the night mail, and was accompanied to that ancient seaport by a remarkably civil gentleman of the name of Lipscombe. A vessel was in the Sound ready to start—the Jacintha, bound for America. James Dixon, alias Thomas Purfleet, secured a passage on board, and a few hours afterwards a signal from the ship gave warning of speedy departure.

"Oh, these are your packages, are they?" said Lipscombe, as James Dixon hurriedly unloaded them from a barrow on the quay, preparatory to their being hoisted into the boat waiting to take him on board the Jacintha. "I wondered where the deuce you had hidden them, friend Dixon—or Nix'em—which is it, eh Or might not the name of Purfleet suit you as well, or better?"

The villain seemed turned into stone as by the stroke of an enchanter's wand, as the officer's words of doom smote upon his ear. Presently the thick perspiration oozed through his clammy forehead, and his quick, gasping breath barely enabled him to articulate, in an accent of utter despair:

"I see it all now, and that I am a dead man! This is Jenkins' doing!"

"Perhaps so; but this packet of valuables would, I think, do for you without his aid. Come along!"

Instead of Richard Warren, Thomas Purfleet and Isaac Jenkins were tried at the ensuing Old Bailey sessions for the murder of Bartholomew Goldsworthy, found guilty, and sentenced to be hanged. Purfleet underwent the extreme penalty; but the sentence passed upon Jenkins was commuted to penal servitude.

Richard Warren has frequently since told me that after the first hour or so of panic, he never for an instant doubted of a true deliverance, a confidence which in all cases, I grieve to say, has not been so happily realised.

AMUSING INCIDENT AT A THEATRE.

"In my theatrical salad days," says a popular comedian, "when I was much younger than I am now, I was trying to pilot a company of Thespian bright lights throughout the provinces. Business was bad and our treasury low. At one town we went to, the theatre orchestra had some sort of grievance against the management, and demanded pay in advance. The theatre refused, and our organisation was not financially in a position to discount the future for a single moment.

"So I started out to find some kind of music, if possible, to tide us over. I finally succeeded in getting the town brass band to agree to play three selections in front of the theatre before the performance in return for free admission to the show.

"The band came in good time, carried out its part of the contract and went into the theatre. I was in the box-office that night, and by-and-bye I was struck by the fact that the B—— brass band seemed to be one of the most remarkable musical organisations in the country. Every minute or two somebody would come up to the door with a brass instrument under his arm, wave it at me, and sail on into the theatre without a word.

"After I had passed in fifty or sixty musicians in this way I began to grow a trifle suspicious, and stopped an old fellow who was carrying a big trombone.

"'Excuse me, sir,' I remarked, 'but do you play in the band?'

"'No,' he answered.

"'What are you doing with that instrument then?' I asked.

"'I'm goin' in on it, if I can,' he replied candidly.

"'Whose is it?' I inquired.

"'Bothered if I know,' he said. 'A feller outside there gave it to me and said I could get in with it.'

"I left the door and stepped outside the theatre just in time to see one of the band boys drop a cornet out of a window into the hands of somebody in the crowd outside.

"As nearly as I can calculate the B—— brass band that night must have had more members than Dan Godfrey ever directed at one time."

THE MISSING "FIVER."

Mark Twain has been telling a good story of a friend of his who was constantly receiving letters from a man asking for the loan of some money. One day Mark's friend was surprised to receive a letter from the impecunious one, which ran as follows:—"This time I have decided to reverse the usual order of things, and instead of borrowing from you, I enclose herewith five pounds, which I am going to ask you to lay aside for me for a rainy day." But the recipient of the letter could not find any cheque. Thinking that he might have dropped it, he searched for it carefully and strenuously, but to no purpose. Then, quite accidentally, he turned over the sheet of notepaper on which the letter was written, and discovered this postscript:—"I've just looked out of the window, and find that it is 'raining cats and dogs.'"

GETTING READY FOR MA.

The way in which an Oklahoma editor announced that his mother was coming to visit him may seem a trifle breezy, but it is safe to say that there isn't a mother living who would not be glad to have her advent hailed with such genuine delight and pride. This is the way he spread the glad tidings abroad:—

"The editor of the 'News-Republican' is going to tog up a little this evening. Going to change collars and put on a pair of cuffs, if we can find any. Going to get shaved, and going to get our shoes shined and the pegs cut out, so we can walk right pertly.

"Ma's a-comin' to see us. You know who ma is? Ma is our only ma, and she's a good one, too—one of the old Ohio Quaker sort, you know.

"Ma lives in Kingfisher. She was our ma when we were born; she was our ma out in Western Kansas when we hunted prairie coal; she was our ma when we drank parched corn coffee in old Oklahoma in '89, and she's our ma now. She's the best we ever had.

"If you see us to-morrow walking down the street with a smile on her face, you'll know that's ma.

"If you never had a ma, you should get one—and one like our ma, too."

Tricks of the Bankers.

Of all devices resorted to by bankers to gain time and inspire confidence during runs on their institutions, there has never, perhaps, been a more novel scheme than that conceived in an American city. The depositors were astounded to find that they could enter the bank only at the cost of soiled garments, as the astute president had caused the doorposts to be freshly painted.

An English bank once prevented a crisis in its affairs by exhibiting in the windows large tubs apparently brimful of sovereigns. These tubs, however, were simply turned upside down, only a small quantity of gold being piled on their bottoms.

An ingenious device was resorted to in Buenos Ayres. There was a run on a large bank, and for several days depositors besieged the premises, withdrawing money and placing it in another bank on the opposite side of the street. It so happened, however, that these two institutions had reached a private understanding; as fast as the safe bank received the deposits they were returned to the unsafe one by an underground passage, with the result that everyone marvelled at its continued ability to meet obligations.

"Women must consider it a dreadful fate to be old maids," mused Mr. Chugwater.

"They do, Josiah," said Mrs. Chugwater. "Look what terrible noodles they sometimes marry to escape it."

FROM VARIOUS SOURCES

They say the following happened out Wilcannia way:—Bills were posted throughout the town notifying that a troupe of tip-top artists, both ladies and gentlemen, would arrive there one night the following week, and give a performance. When the night arrived the hall was packed to overflowing. Near the time for starting a man went on the platform, and craved the patience of the audience, as the troupe had been delayed through the bad roads, but were now nearing the town. The crowd took it all in good heart, and sat down to wait, while listening to the accompanist playing a few selections on the piano. Time passed however, and no troupe appeared, and they became suspicious. They looked for the man that made the apology, but he was not on hand, having been swallowed up in the darkness of the plains. They say the town is still waiting for the troupe, or to having their money returned.

The other day (writes Ward Edson) I met a bush liar who would interest you. He was a tall, shambling, young man, slow of speech, and he was in town for the race meeting, and to correct Mr. Byron Moore's views of the manner in which horse races should be managed. He said they had a much better racecourse than Flemington up Wild Man's, back o' Boorabillong. There the timber was so thick and the trees so level that they ran their races on top of them, and used Mt. Misty for the grandstand. Up at Wild Man's, he said (and he spoke slowly and somewhat sadly, like a person wholly uninterested in the world's affairs), they had a horse that could gallop two miles so fast that nobody could time him. "You see," he said, "the beggar ran so quick that he always overtook the watch, and got minutes ahead of it, so it would seem he'd done the two miles in about four minutes less'n no time at all." I asked for a further and more lucid explanation of this phenomenon, but the tall, sad, young man was talking about Sin Fat, the vegetable vendor at Wild Man's. "We don't have none o' your old-fashioned ways up to Wild Man's, back o' Boorabillong," drawled the pleasant Australian. "Sin Fat don't hawk his goods in no barrer. He brings his bloomin' garden to the door, 'n' you have your vegetables dug fresh from the soil every mornin'." Then the young man went on to talk about shooting. "I'll tell you a curious thing happened to me," he said. "I was out one day, hangin' round, 'n' I saw a giant ole man kangaroo. Stood 'most as high ez this 'ouse. I hadn't no gun with me, worse luck, but I went home fer one ez smart ez I could; then I looked fer that thunderin' 'roo fer three days, but couldn't find him, so in disgust I took a chance shot down the track he had gone. Strange to say, I hit him three miles off, but it strained the gun so badly the barrel was all warped, 'n' it ain't good for anythin' since." The young man looked thoughtful for a moment, and then said: "I s'pose you've got some pretty big vegetable marrers here in Melbin. A bloke named Cockney up our way grew one so big he scooped the inside out of it, and used it fer a boarding-house." He was going on to talk about snakes, but I went out in quest of fresh air.

The other Saturday night, in the market-place, an old lady was observed poking about amongst the rubbish near one of the stalls with the point of her "gamp," and finally she addressed a bystander with—"Hi, mister, would you mind shiftin' your 'beetle-crushers' a bit; Ah've dropped ma bit o' toffee." "Toffee, missis!" was the reply. "Why, tha'll niver find it noo; besides, 'twould be unfit to eat if you did." "Well, yer see, mister," responded the old dame, "it's no so much th' toffee as is a-worryin' me; it's the top set o' ma false teeth wot's gone wi' it!"

A boy was sent for twopennyworth of indigo dye, but on the way to the shop was met by a number of schoolfellows, who persuaded him to join them in a game of cricket. During the game he quite forgot the name of the dye, and on finally arriving at the shop was at a loss what to ask for. "What do people generally dye with now?" he asked the shopman. "Well, they die of all sorts of diseases," was the reply; "but a rare lot are dying with influenza just now." "Then I'll have twopennyworth," said the boy, promptly. "That must be it."

A middle-aged couple called upon a clergyman to put up the banns. "Have you ever been married before?" the bridegroom was asked. "No, sir," he replied. "Have you?" asked the minister, turning to the bride. "Well, yes, sir, I have," replied the bride; "but it was ten years ago, and he was killed in a railway collision when we'd been married only a week, so it really ain't worth mentioning."

The disconsolate milkman wiped the whitish-grey mud from off his clothes, and gazed wretchedly after the runaway horse. Then he glanced at the dirty-white puddles that represented his stock-in-trade. A crowd had gathered round to watch the fun. Suddenly he turned upon them. "Look here," he shouted, rolling up his coatsleeves, "the first ape-faced idiot who says a word about it's being no use crying over spilt milk, I'll punch his head for him!" Then, followed by the crowd, he started after the runaway.

McSwirter and McTavish had decided to indulge in the luxury of a bath. "How much for two baths?" they asked the man at the pay-window. "Sixpence each, please." "Hech, mon, but that's a lot o' money," said McSwirter. "Let us twa in t'gither for ninepence, and we'll use the same water."

Another Side.

Miss Romantic: What a lovely morning. How resplendent the bright orb of days hangs in the blue vault above!

Mr. Matterfact: Y-a-a-s; nice day for a feller to get his hair cut.

On one occasion a school teacher was endeavoring to convey the idea of pity to the members of his class. It was not easy, so he proceeded to illustrate it by a little story.

"Now supposing," he said, "a man working on the river suddenly fell in. He could not swim, and would be in danger of drowning. Picture the scene, boys and girls—the man's sudden fall, the cry for help! His wife, knowing his peril and hearing his screams, rushes immediately to the bank. Why does she rush to the bank?"

After a pause a small voice piped out:

"Please, sir, to draw his insurance money!"

"I should like to undertake a fast of four weeks in your tent," said a professional "faster" to a showman at an exhibition. "How much will you go?"

"I can't give you any salary, but I tell you what I'll do—I'll give you your victuals and a shakedown!"

UNDER THE RED SHIELD.

The True Romance of the Rothschild House.

It was in a sordid, evil-smelling street in a Frankfort slum that the dazzling fortunes of the great house of Rothschild were cradled in the latter half of the eighteenth century. Picture a narrow lane, flanked on each side by towering rookeries of grimy bricks, in which the air was always foetid and stagnant, and into which the light of the sun rarely penetrated; and at each end of this lane, a barricade of iron chains beyond which none of its residents might pass under fear of death. Within these narrow bounds hundreds of Jews led their narrow lives.

Meyer Amschel Rothschild was born in the year 1743, the son of a poverty-stricken dealer in oddments who took his name from the Red Shield (Rothschild) which hung, as a trade-sign, in front of his modest shop. His real name was Bauer.

Before he had reached his twelfth birthday, young Meyer was well known for his business astuteness. He quickly found Frankfort too cabined a sphere for his ambition; and packing up his few belongings he started one day, with a stout stick and a stouter heart for companions, on the long tramp to Hanover, where the bright-faced lad soon found a place in the office of a banker and money-changer. Here, by hard work and thrift, he managed to save the capital which enabled him to return to Frankfort a man of means, and in a position to start as a dealer in bullion, curios, coins, and bills of exchange on a large scale.

The real turn of the tide arrived when he came under the notice of William IX., Landgraf of Hesse Cassel, who took the Jew into his favor, installing him as banker to himself and his court.

Those were the troublous times when Napoleon was flooding Europe with the horrors of war, and when great thrones were tottering and falling on all hands. When the destroying armies at last threatened Hesse Cassel, William thought it high time to seek safety in flight. In his hurry to "pack up and be off" he had no time to secure his cash, which he was only too glad to leave in the hands of his banker, though probably he had misgivings as to seeing it again. Safer, however, he thought, in the hands of Rothschild than in those of Napoleon. The sum amounted to a quarter of a million pounds. Rothschild, however, was equal to the crisis; he saw how to take good care of the money, and at the same time to make it yield an excellent return to himself. The result was that within six years he had nearly quadrupled the Landgraf's capital.

When Meyer lay dying he summoned his five sons and as many daughters, and enjoined on them that when he was no more they should conduct the great business he had built up, in partnership, trusting each other and working in harmony for the extension of the family fortunes; and that, with this object, their descendants should as far as possible inter-marry.

All five sons had inherited much of their father's financial genius; but it was to Nathan, the third, that the lion's share fell. Arriving at Manchester as a youth, with less than £100 as capital, he prospered so rapidly as banker and money-lender that within a few years he was able to migrate to London with £200,000 at his back, a substantial capital which he quickly increased ten-fold.

When Napoleon returned from Elba to take up the sword again, Nathan prepared for his greatest coup. Not trusting to his agents, he himself ventured as far as the field of Waterloo, and from a neighboring height watched the ebb and flow of that epoch-making battle. The moment he saw the tide turned decisively against Napoleon, he jumped on his swift horse and raced, as one possessed, to Ostend.

Here he encountered a serious check. The sea was running mountains high, and no fisherman dared venture on it. An offer of 2000 francs at last secured the services of one more venturesome than his fellows, and after a perilous voyage Nathan was landed at Dover, from whence he posted fast as horses could gallop, through the night, to London, and at 10 o'clock the next morning was found leaning against his accustomed pillar at the Stock Exchange.

For days the Stock Exchange had been extraordinarily nervous, and was now in a state to be influenced either way by the faintest and most unreliable hint. It was known that Nathan had left for the Continent, and when he appeared again there was a great silence of consternation. Then suddenly, from what source no one was quite certain, the news began to circulate that the hundred and seventeen thousand Prussians under Blucher had been cut down at Ligny on the 16th and 17th of June, and that Wellington was a doomed man. This news produced an extraordinary effect, and the funds dropped to absurd prices, Nathan himself being amongst the very first to sell. But while he sold gingerly with his left hand, the Jew had bought in bounteously with his right, and when the good news came on the following day Nathan had netted a million pounds.

The fortune left by Nathan to his four sons has been estimated at £10,000,000.

Baron Nathan was succeeded in England by his son, Baron Lionel, who still further enhanced the family fortunes. He was the chief mover in the construction of all the leading Continental lines, and in the loan of £4,000,000 to the British Government for the purchase of Suez Canal shares from the Khedive. But his chief title to memory is his magnificent work for his co-religionists, whose political emancipation, among other great and beneficent services, he secured.

Of the later history of this great family the story is perhaps too well known to require re-telling. To-day the Rothschilds, still presenting a harmonious and consolidated front, are incomparably the wealthiest family in Europe, and probably in the world.

Wife (whose pet hobby is laying down the law): What would you do, Henry, if burglars entered the house?

Abject Henry: Do! Just what they told me, of course. I never have had my own way in the house yet.

Manager of Show: Well, what's the matter now, John?

Property Man: Everything's gone wrong. The crocodile says he'll go out if you don't pay him his last week's salary; the bearded woman wants an ounce of tobacco, and he's angry because I won't lend him fourpence to get it with; and the fasting girl says she'd rather starve than eat the steak the butcher sent.

Mrs. Hastymatch: I had a dozen proposals before yours. All from smarter men than you, too.

Mr. Hastymatch: They must have been. How did they manage to crawl out of it?

The pale, proud girl turns to the big, heavy-browed man, who is gazing at her so intently. He has a glittering knife in his hand.

"Have you no heart?" she asks, in low, even tones.

"No," he tells her

"Then give me twopennyworth of liver."

Rapidly cutting off the desired amount, the butcher wraps it up for her, gives her the change, and turns to wait on the next customer.

"Papa, may I take my piano with me when I marry?"

Papa: I shall insist upon it, my dear.

GET OUT! YE LOVER-SNEERERS.

By an Optimist.

The cheerless company of cackling croakers has got its knife flush into the modern young man.

Unlike Caesar's wife, the poor chap is blameworthy in everything he does. If he dares to smile, the country is immediately going to the dogs; if he goes about with a long face, he is held up as an awful example of the namby-pambyism of the age. He is, in short, an encumberance upon the face of the earth.

Even his ambition, or lack of ambition, to marry is not sacred. If he shows no signs of wishing to enter the bonds of matrimony, he is forthwith denounced as a selfish brute, who is evading his moral and proper obligations to the State, and who should, therefore, be taxed.

If, on the other hand, he falls in love with a girl, and wants to make her his wife, he is everlastingly told that he is an imbecile, and that he is on the high road to endangering, if not actually ruining his prospects in life.

This last contention is a very favorite, pessimistic one, and one which I shall proceed to smash.

First of all, so it is shrieked, the young man in love moons about, and cannot bring his mind to bear fully on his work.

Now, that is a silly mis-statement, for which a lot of sillier poets are chiefly to blame. No ordinary young man in love with an ord—I beg pardon—extraordinary young lady moons about, and neglects work.

He would very soon get the sack if he did. And the sack is one of the chief things that he particularly wishes to dodge in the circumstances.

No, Messrs. Jeremiah and Co., such may give way to mooning and slack-Seek one out, and study him quietly.

Note the cheery and bright look on his face; the alert, elastic step; the general air of gladness that the new incentive to work hard and get on invariably creates.

Nay, nay, my poor, dear, fretful fools, you are up against a young man in his best fighting form there. It is the young man who is not in love who may give way to mooning and slacking.

I said just now that the young man in love does not want to get the sack. I repeat it—he doesn't. But that does not mean that he will suddenly allow himself to be sat upon, or that he will refuse henceforth to take any sporting risks.

Oh, dear me, no, ye melancholy monks. The innate gambling spirit, the lust for trying to bring off a coup, does not suddenly forsake a man when he becomes engaged to be married.

On the contrary, it becomes keener if anything. Only, your engaged man having more than number one to consider, is given to taking more sensible risks. He is apt to look before he leaps, which is an eminently wise thing to do.

Another grievance against the young man in love is that he is for ever thinking of his pet girl, and that he often becomes unsociable, and even morose when she isn't about.

Well, that he should have her on the brain, so to speak, is, to my mind, splendid, especially if she be afflicted in the same way as regards him.

I see nothing to grumble at in that; on the contrary, I see in it distinct signs of much future bliss and happiness for the two persons thus mentally concerned.

I would not have things otherwise—I want the world to go on turning on its axis.

Nor am I to be found groaning aloud if any young man prefers to sit in a corner alone and build castles in the air, or enrich the postal revenue by nightly forwarding reams of manuscript to his lady-love rather than engage in a tete-a-tete with me. Good luck to him, say I.

For a young man to be in love is good in every way, I am convinced.

It makes him more careful of his personal appearance, for one thing. You do not see him with a twenty-four hours' beard on him when his inamorata is in the neighborhood, for instance.

Then he becomes less selfish and self-centred. He will give up all sorts of former little extravagances, in order that he may be able to do or buy things to please his girl.

I know several men who have permanently reduced their daily consumption by one-half at the desire of "She Who Must Be Obeyed."

Also, falling in love very often leads a man to take an intelligent and lasting interest in things which never appealed to him before Cupid hit him.

If the girl be keen on literature, art, music, or what not, the man is pretty certain to follow suit sooner or later.

All of which you can put in your pipes and smoke, you anti-amorites.

A LEGEND OF WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.

Here is a story of Dr. Busby, the famous flogging master of Westminster school. He was seated one day in his class-room when a stone came through the window. The doctor, in great wrath, sent down a praepostor to find out the author of the mischief. Outside a number of boys were playing, and the praepostor demanded, in Busby's name, that the culprit should be given up.

Now there happened to be standing in the playground, looking on at the boys' sports, a fashionably-dressed young Frenchman, and one of the boys—splendide mendax—pointed him out as the window-breaker. (This boy, by the way, so original and audacious, must have been famous in after-life, perhaps as a judge or a bishop.) Several other boys took the cue, and corroborated his evidence.

The unsuspecting Frenchman was politely requested to step upstairs, and having been thus lured into the lion's den, before he knew what he was to do, he was seized by two strong praepostors, and soundly birched by the indignant Busby. The Frenchman rushed home in a fury, and next day wrote a challenge to the doctor, which was duly presented by his valet. Busby must have seen him coming, and guessed his errand, for on reading the missive he thus addressed him:

"Young man, I yesterday taught your master manners; now I must do the same for you!"

At a signal two men-servants entered, who held the astonished flunkey, while the doctor again administered a sound flogging. The man rushed home and told his master, who, the story says, was so terrified by the truculent behavior of these rude islanders that he packed up forthwith and fled over the sea to his native land.

An Ounce of Prevention.

Jimmie: How did you know I was going to call?

Her Little Sister: I saw Nell taking the pins out of her belt.

A Cheerful Prospect.

"Do you think you can help me, doctor?"

"Well, I should think so, with the experience I have had. I have been attending a man with your complaint for the last twenty years!"

A physician was recently walking in the street with his five-year-old son, when they were obliged to remain on the pavement a few minutes to allow a funeral procession to pass. The youngster had never seen anything of the kind. His eyes widened. Pointing to the hearse, he asked:

"Dad, what's that?"

"That, my son," said the physician, with a grim smile, "is a mistaken diagnosis."

WOMEN AND THE STRENUOUS LIFE.

By a Woman Doctor.

It may be stated, as a preliminary fact, that the average woman does not know how to take care of herself. She regards good health as a matter of course—until she loses it. She thinks that youth and energy are everlasting qualities, so she overworks herself on every occasion; she hustles and bustles through life, underfeeds and undersleeps, and is indignant because her constitution cannot stand the strain after a few years.

Nine out of ten business girls neglect their health, and the tenth, although she may be less clever, less capable, and less all round able a woman, makes a success of her life when the others fail. Why, health means everything to the girl who has to earn her own living. It means happiness, and the joy of work; it means good looks and good temper; it means ambitions achieved; it means, in a word, "success."

How does the working-woman neglect her health? In the first place, she tries to do too much. She thinks that the more work, and the more amusement too, that she can get into the twenty-four hours, the cleverer she is. She is on the rush from the time she gets up in the morning till she goes to sleep in the early hours of the following day.

She rushes her meals, gets through her work at express speed, and rushes home at night—not to rest, but to pack as much social gaiety and amusement into the evening hours as she can manage to do. She grudges the time she has to sleep and eat; she lives in a state of perpetual stimulation and excitement, and everybody wonders how she gets through it all without "turning a hair."

But one day the strain proves too much for her. She feels tired and seedy, and depressed, and that is the beginning of the end. She becomes nervous and irritable, and begins to suffer from insomnia. Loss of appetite and lacking interest in her work becomes more and more apparent; she drinks tea or coffee, and flies to drugs for the constant headaches and sleeplessness which makes her life miserable. And the cause of it all is overstrain. The girl who overdoes it has to pay in the end.

If you refuse to obey the simple laws of health and hygiene, Nature exacts the penalty of ill-health. If you feel tired and seedy, and out of sorts, take heed whilst there is time. Headache is Nature's warning, neuralgia and insomnia are Nature's danger-signals that you are going the pace a little bit harder than you can afford to do. If you can't curtail your work, make it up in some other way. Rest more, sleep an hour or two longer at night, and cultivate quiet and repose of mind.

The working-woman who has to live the strenuous life should sleep as much and as often as she can. The mid-day rest will make all the difference to health and good looks; not reclining in a chair with a book or a piece of sewing to take up the attention, but complete rest—physiological rest.

Lie flat on your back, with every muscle as flaccid as you can make it, limbs limp, and eyes closed. Then banish thought from your mind. Think of nothing, if such a thing be possible—that is, make your mind a complete blank. Remain like that for 15 or 20 minutes. Whenever you get the chance during the day, rest in the same way. At least, rest your mind.

Don't sit continually with your mind on the strain in a train, tram, or 'bus. That is the way to acquire wrinkles and the look of strained anxiety which disfigures the faces of so many working-women. Learn how to rest, how to relax, and you have mastered the first secret of health.

Sleep nine hours every night if you have to work hard by day. Hard work is an excellent thing, if you allow time for sleep, for the nerve repair and tissue rest, which are only to be obtained in quiet sleep.

If you get really run down and out of sorts, try a brief rest-cure. A week-end in bed will work wonders for the woman who has overworked herself for the time being. Try it and see.

ENTERED HIS OWN COFFIN.

On January 15, 1903, a curious fatality occurred in the vaults of Aubervilliers, where the Paris authorities keep thousands of coffins in case of an outbreak of epidemic, a sudden disaster, or a renewal of the bygone street fights. The coffins are watched day and night by men whose duty it is to walk up and down the long alleys on the look-out for fire or thieves. The alleys being very extensive, the guards are always counted as they go on and come off duty, in addition to being visited by inspectors at various intervals. On Thursday, January 15, it was discovered that one of the nightguard had disappeared, the visiting inspector failing to find him at his post. Search was made throughout the alleys, but no trace could be found of the man until late on Sunday, when one of the watchmen who had just come on duty caught the scent of rum as he turned one of the corners. His suspicions being aroused, he followed the scent to a coffin on the top tier. On trying to lift the lid, he found it tightly wedged in, and had to summon assistance before it could be raised. When the coffin was opened, the body of the missing watchman was found, with an empty bottle in his hands, and rum soaking into the wood at the bottom. It was surmised that the man, under the influence of drink at the time, had clambered into the coffin to escape the attention of the inspector, when the lid fell and jammed upon him, and so led to suffocation.

What the Parrot Said.

"You have had that parrot a long time now, Miss Laura, haven't you?" observed Percy Nicefellow to the young lady on whom he was making a call.

"Oh, yes, several years," was the response.

"Very intelligent, is he not?" went on Percy.

"Quite; he can imitate almost everything."

"Ah," continued Percy, "they have a remarkably clever bird at the Browns'. It can imitate the sound of a kiss to perfection. Is that among the accomplishments of our feathered friend in the corner?"

"No, it is not, sir!" exclaimed the young lady, indignantly. "Whatever a parrot does is by imitation simply, and it is not likely that our bird would repeat a sound he is certainly not accustomed to hear."

Then the parrot chimed in:

"No, George, dear! Wait till I have taken this wretched bird out of the room."

A class of recruits were being put through a preliminary examination in first-aid work. When it came to Patrick O'Brien's turn the sergeant put the following question to him:

"Now, Pat, supposing a man were to fall down in a drunken fit, how would you treat him?"

"Shure, sergeant," replied Pt, "I would not treat him at all; I would consider that he had had enough!"

"It was blowing hard when we ran out of port," began the old salt, impressively.

"But I suppose you'd got some sherry or something to go on with?" said the sympathetic listener.

"My dear, you grow prettier every day!"

"And shabbier, John. Compliments are all very well, but I'd like to see a little ready cash occasionally."

THROWING MISSILES.

VERDICT CONTRARY TO EVIDENCE.

At the Northcote Police Court on Monday morning before Dr Cole, P.M., and Messrs Plant and McIntosh, J's.P., a young man named Harold Clarke was charged with endangering the life of James Evans by throwing missiles on his house. Mr. R. Candy appeared for plaintiff and Mr. Sonnenberg for the defence.

James Evans said that he resided at Station street, Fairfield. About 9 p m. on Sunday, 7th February, he and his wife were sitting on the verandah, when two stones struck the side of the house, one of which bounced on to his arm. He went to the back of the premises, waited awhile, and then saw the defendant throw a stone on the house. He followed him to the railway station, got into same train as defendant, travelled to Westgarth station, got out and followed the young man till he entered his home in High street. The following day he informed Constable McCann of the facts.

In reply to Mr. Sonnenberg plaintiff said that he kept his eyes on accused between 9 and 10 o'clock, and left Fairfield by the 9.30 train.

Constable McCann stated that he interviewed accused at his parents' home the following Tuesday night. He asked accused who the young man was that left Fairfield with him by the 9.46 train on Sunday night. Accused replied that he was not at Fairfield that evening but in town. On being asked if he was with anyone or spoke to anyone when in town he answered in the negative, but said that Bob Campbell saw him getting out of the train at Clifton Hill.

Harold Clarke, cutter, in the emply of Foy and Gibson for five years, stated that he had never thrown any stones on Evans' house. On Sunday night, 7th February, he was in the city between 8.30 and 9.30. He saw Mr. and Mrs. Pace at the Cathedral corner and said good-night to them and they inquired after his mother. He returned to Clifton Hill by the 9 25 train, where he said good-night to James Ferguson, and proceeded to Queen's parade. He afterwards met R. Campbell and G. Whitchell and reached home about 11 o'clock.

In answer to Mr. Sonnenberg, accused said he had no recollection of ever seeing Evans before that morning.

Leslie Pace, of 130 Rae street, North Fitzroy, said that he met Clarke near St. Paul's Cathedral about twenty minutes to 9 at night when returning from Fern Tree Gully.

Ethel Pace (wife of previous witness) also stated that she spoke to Clarke the same night at the same time and place.

James Ferguson, for 9 years in the employ of McNaughton Love & Co., said that he said goodnight to Clarke on the Clifton Hill station at twenty minutes to 10 on the night of the seventh. Clarke got out of the train arriving from Melbourne as he got in to go to Fairfield.

Robert James Campbell, clerk at Langridge & Sons, stated that he met Clarke at a quarter to 10 the same night at the corner of Heidelberg road and Michael street, Clifton Hill, and was in his company about quarter of an hour.

George Whitchell, billiard marker at the Bridge Hotel, said he was speaking to Clarke between 10 and 11 o'clock opposite the rockeries in High street, Northcote.

Lydia Clarke (mother of accused) stated that her son was home when she left for church. She returned about 9 p.m., and in company with her husband and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. Knight sat outside on the verandah. Her son arrived home about 11 o'clock.

Mr. Sonenberg—It has been sworn that your son arrived home at 10 o'clock. Is that correct;

Witness—No.

Harry Knight, van proprietor, stated that he was at Clarke's house on the 7th February, and remained on the front verandah till a quarter to eleven. Her son had not returned at the time of his leaving.

This closed the evidence.

The chairman (Dr. Cole) said that a majority of the bench were of the opinion that accused was guilty, but as he was a respectable young man in a good position they did not wish to record a conviction. They would, therefore, adjourn the case for six months.

Two guineas costs were allowed.

CRICKET.

V.C.A. MATCHES.

NORTHCOTE V. ST. KILDA.

The first elevens of the above play at the Northcote Park this afternoon. This will be the last match of the season for Northcote on their own ground. They will be represented by—Begg, Billings, Birrell, Brown, Buckley, Mitchell, O'Leary, Plant, Rowe, Webb, Wilkinson.

The second elevens play at St. Kilda. Northcote team—Andrew, Ashby, Bedford, Brown, Coyle, James, Lugton, Mues, Pratt, Yeomans (2)

NORTHCOTE V. RIDDELL.

A mixed team journeyed to Riddell's Creek last Saturday and played the local club, who was captained by a live Lord. On reaching the ground the wicket was in not too good a state, and after a little preparation a start was made. Riddell batted first and made 97, Byes being highest scorer. The bowling for Northcote was done by Ashby (2 for 3), Phillips (1 for 11), Brown (2 for 9), Bailey (2 for 12), Mues (1 for 12), and Andrew (1 for 15). Northcote knocked up 137 in quick time, Bedford batting well for 73 not out, J. Brown 25, Bailey 13, Wilkinson 11. A pleasant evening was spent at the country township.

Everleigh, 153, defeated Studley, 23 The winners' best players were W. Punch, 53 not out and 2 for 5; L. Punch, 30 and 1 for 6; Hills, 27; Brittain 25; and V. Punch, 3 for 7.

Preston Methodists, 1 for 35 (Bussell 22 not out, Stephenson 12 not out), v. Fairfield Park, 189 (S. Wescott, 3 for 19, P. Westmoreland, 3 for 21; Skilton 43. Poppins 37 not out.) The match will be resumed this afternoon.

Preston Presbyterian 36 v. Clarendon St. 53 and none for 0 (Jones 4 for 0, Bartley 2 for 6, Paterson 2 for 18.

Northcote Presbyterian B v. Richmond. Scores—Northcote, 65 (Hayes 34, Timmins 13); Richmond, 7 for 87. The match will be concluded to day.

Be sure you ask for and see that you get **T. W. SHERRIN'S** Improved Match Cricket Balls—absolutely the strongest made ball the world produces. Look for the name and "Kangaroo Brand" which are gold stamped on each ball. Manufactory: 32 and 34 Wellington St., Collingwood. Sherrin's cricket balls are used by the English Eleven and all the Leading Clubs of Melbourne in pennant matches; also ordered by the trustees of the Sydney cricket ground, and used throughout the Commonwealth by the leading clubs.

Order your Summer Suit

NOW!

Men who are tailored elsewhere always admire the set of our clothes because they imagine they must have come from an expensive tailor's. When they learn our prices they are surprised how it can be done for the money—but we do it, though it's too long a story to tell here.

T. TREVENA,

THE RELIABLE TAILOR,

SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD.

The Very Latest in Summer Fancy Vests.

WEAR A KING HAT!

A HAT that you can depend upon to give you real honest service—a Hat that is guaranteed by Practical Hatters—a Hat that has Quality, Shapeliness, Style.

"THE KING," 6/6 to 10/6.

Obtainable only from

T. TREVENA, THE HAT KING.

Telephone 410, City.

I HEREBY give notice that I intend to apply to the Preston Shire Council, under Section 223 of the Health Act, for permission to make further extensions to my premises in Gilbert Road.

R. STAPLES.

Preston, Feb. 25, 1909.

Colonel Braithwaite's Employees' First Annual Picnic.

A very enjoyable outing was spent by about 80 persons who journeyed to Beaumaris with the above picnic on Saturday last. Three drags were engaged from Messrs Garton and Sons and every seat was comfortably filled. A start was made from Murray road at 9 o'clock, and after a very pleasant drive arrived at their destination at half past eleven. Messrs Hodgett had charge of the catering, and after a hearty meal the company adjourned to the recreation reserve, where a good programme of sports was gone through, great interest being taken in the different events. But unfortunately rain interrupted the proceedings, and the company had to retire to the marquee, where several of the party came to the rescue with songs and dancing, which kept things lively till the rain ceased, when the programme continued without further interruption. Col. Braithwaite, with party, arrived in the afternoon, and, entering into the spirit of the proceedings, ably assisted in carrying out the programme. Several toasts were proposed at the tea adjournment, and the chairman (Mr. R. Mutimer) hoped that this picnic, as much as it had been enjoyed by all present, would be outdone by that which would be held next year. The party arrived home about ten o'clock, all being well pleased with the day's outing. The following are the results of the sports, in which a swimming match was included, and caused considerable amusement to the onlookers:—

Sheffield handicap, 120 yards.—Heat winners—A. Gibbs, scratch; H. Smith, 16 yds.; C. Cameron, 15 yds.; F. Ashton, 24 yds.; M. Davies, 13 yds. Final—Kupsch 1, Smith 2, Gibbs 3.

Married men's race, 100 yds.—C. Cameron, 6 yds., 1; O. Cooper, scratch. 2, C. Fry, scratch, 3.

Boys' race, 75 yards.—J. Kupsch, 1 yd., 1; E. Tidd 2½ yds., 2; F. Ashton, 7 yds., 3.

Single ladies' race, 50 yds.—Miss Edie Smith 1, Miss Alice Gibbs 2.

Needle-threading race.—W. Gibbs 1, A. Gibbs 2, H. Glover 3.

Committee race, 50 yds—J. Smith, 30 yds., 1.

Swimming race, 50 yds.—G. Bransgrove 1, T. Freeman 2, O. Cooper 3.

I.O.R.

The fortnightly meeting of the Star of Northcote Tent was held on Thursday evening last, the chief ruler, Bro. Auty, was in the chair, and there was a splendid attendance of members. Bro. Dyson resigned his position of secretary of the fancy fair and Bro. Auty was elected in his stead. Reference was made to the death of Bro. E. Bastings, who had been a member of the Order for over 50 years. Nine new members were initiated and 5 propositions were received. Within the last 3 meetings 17 members have been initiated. Bros. Baty, senior and junior, and Bro. Garbutt, visitors from other tents, were welcomed by the chief ruler. A report was received from the football club and a further meeting was announced for Wednesday evening next.

The last meeting of the Pride of Northcote Tent was held on the 9th inst. The attendance was interfered with somewhat by the town picnic. There were three new members initiated, and one proposed. The tent was visited by the district officer, Bro. Ruddock, who congratulated the members on the manner in which the initiation ceremonies were conducted. At the next meeting the ladies will distribute work to those desirous of assisting in the forthcoming fair.

BOWLING.

The final round for the above tournament was played on Thursday evening last on the Thornbury green with the following result—

Alexander, Dempsy, Buraton, Butcher (Collingwood) ...	won	10 ends
Mitchell, Slinn, Wales, Hardham (Prince's Park) ...	„	9 „
Gault, Staite, Gurzer, Robbie (Fitzroy and East Melb.)	„	9 „
J. Bowes, Ward, Beattie, Shaw (Carlton) ...	„	8 „
Goldsmith, Lethbridge, Kemp, F. Bowes (Carlton) ...	„	6 „

By their victory as above the Collingwood team won the handsome trophies presented by Mr. Gilpin for this tournament. On the conclusion of play Mr. Barstow (Collingwood) moved and Mr. Shaw (Carlton) seconded and other visitors supported a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Gilpin, all eulogising his generous support of and constant endeavour to further popularise the game. Frequent allusion was also made to the excellent condition of the green. Mr. Gilpin briefly acknowledged the compliment, saying he hoped to do even better next year.

Thornbury four rink played a friendly match against Cheltenham on the former's green last Saturday.

Thornbury, 104.

1. Pike, Dowsing, Smith, Whalley ...	29
2. Meakin, Robb, Dickason, King ...	27
3. Harris, Workman, Adams, Stephens	17
4. Boyd, Whiteoak, Jarrett, Gilpin ...	31

Cheltenham, 82.

1. Judd, Brown, McNwain, Newing ...	24
2. Grundy, Dinner, Webb, Fairlam ...	21
3. Hewett, Dowker, Pentland, McFarlane	15
4. Walton, Holyoak, Woff, Barnett ...	29

A three-rink friendly match was played between Thornbury and Williamstown last Saturday.

Williamstown, 92.

1. Wood, Richardson, Long, Breeze ...	34
2. Dixon, Brockford, Bolton, Johnson	32
3. Challis, Challis, Compton, Whear ...	26

Thornbury, 59.

1. Lewis, Tobin, Brown, Doran ...	20
2. McPherson, Johnson, McDougall, Farley	15
3. Robinson, Littlejohn, Cogle, Launder	24

Amusements.

THE Northcote Cycling Club will hold the second of a series of SOCIALS in the Northcote Town Hall on FRIDAY next, 26th March. Smart & Aumont's Band, Refreshments. Gents 2/, Ladies 6d. Efficient M.C. Please take notice that tickets are sold at the door only. The following Social will be held on Wednesday, 7th April (not Good Friday).

COMPLIMENTARY SMOKE CONCERT

tendered to

LIEUT. COL. BRAITHWAITE

at the

SHIRE HALL, PRESTON,

on

FRIDAY, 26th MARCH,

On the occasion of his departure for England.

TICKETS, 3/6.

Cr. ALLCHIN, Shire President, Chairman.

G. H. HAMILTON, Hon. Sec.

CROXTON PARK RESERVE, Wednesday Evening Next, 24th Inst., GRAND OPEN-AIR CONCERT and DANCING COMPETITION, Highland Fling and Cake-walk. Greatest Show of the Season. Entries free. Close to-night with

H. W. BALHARRY, Promoter.

INDIGNATION MEETING OF RATEPAYERS, CROXTON PARK RECREATION RESERVE,

Tuesday Evening, March 23rd, at 8.30,

To resent the action of the late Mayor when resigning from that position casting reflection on a number of the ratepayers and their representation in the Council.

AMERICAN DENTISTRY.

MR. ALEX. G. DE LACY, R.D.S., Dentist,

Desires to inform the Residents of Northcote that he may be consulted at his private residence—

"TORONTO," MARTIN ST., NORTHCOTE.

Hours—8 a.m. to 9 a.m. 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Or by special appointment.

The Latest High-Class System of Dentistry at Lowest Fees.

Artificial Teeth, Upper or Lower Set, from £3 10/.

Painless Extraction of Teeth, 2/6.

City Address—153 ELIZABETH ST., Between Bourke and Little Collins Streets, MELBOURNE.

NORTHCOTE

Property Exchange.

Stott & Bastings

(H. E. BASTINGS, W. S. STOTT),

Auctioneer,

Sworn Valuer,

Estate & Insurance Agents.

RENTS COLLECTED.

BUILDINGS ARRANGED.

MONEY TO LEND ON DEEDS.

OFFICES:

207 High St., Northcote.

521 High St., Upper Northcote.

Station St., Fairfield (on station).

381 High St., Preston (opp. Shire Hall)

Heidelberg Road, Alphington.

Tel. 1976.

Ernest Lees,

ESTATE AGENT,

299 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE

(next "Leader" office).

I am gratified with the splendid support which the property owners and residents of this district have given me during the last year.

I am looking forward with confidence to even greater success during 1909.

My business is conducted on the soundest and cleanest lines, and while strenuous efforts are put forth to effect sales, no attempt is made to FOIST property upon purchasers This system has inspired confidence and almost invariably one purchaser has recommended a relation or friend to do business through me.

I shall be pleased to receive particulars of property for sale.

Notify me when your insurance business needs attention and leave the rest to me.

Before building consult me. I can save money for you and relieve you of much worry.

Allow me to collect your rent, invest your money, manage your auction sale, or insure your life in the A.M.P.

Does House Property PAY?

Well, that depends on the firm that does your business for you. Probably 95 per cent. of agents have very little practical knowledge of the construction or repairs of a house, and are deficient also of the legal training which should be possessed by a competent agent to enable him to properly discharge the important duties of his profession. That accounts for the absurd and serious mistakes made by incompetent agents which are liable to involve owners in costly law expenses and sometimes loss of property.

Thousands of pounds are lost by owners through allowing their property to go out of repair, which a practical agent could have saved them by reliable advice given them when it was first needed. If you wish your property to pay good interest on your money place it in the hands of THE PRACTICAL AGENTS,

Gordon Garrett & Co.,

the only agents in the district with legal and building trade experience. Specialists in House Property, Insurance Experts. We advance money to buy or build, supply plans, specifications, and estimates. If you wish to insure your house or furniture, just drop us a note so that we may call and quote you lowest rates.

No business is too small or too large for us to attend to. Note address—

GORDON GARRETT & CO.,

Architects, Builders, Estate, Insurance and Financial Agents,

583-585 High St., Upper Northcote (near Thornbury station).

Houses built, cash or terms, materials and workmanship guaranteed. No "jerry building" catered for. Representatives for these districts for the new "Madera Ferro-Concrete" Buildings now coming into use in Australia. Better and cheaper than weatherboard or brick—more artistic and comfortable. Don't imagine because our buildings are well built and artistic they are necessarily expensive. We build well at a fair price to maintain a good reputation and secure further business. A well built, artistic home is cheaper than a jerry building. With its artistic design, harmoniously and tastefully blended decorations, and those little up-to-date conveniences that help to make a pleasant and comfortable home, it is the pride of its owner and friends, adds to his social distinction and is a valuable property to sell or let—while Brown's house built by "Runemup," the "jerry builder," is a constant source of expense to him for repairs and a heavy loss if he wishes to sell.

C. A. Stephenson

Notifies the Public of Preston that he has opened as a

FRUITERER and GREENGROCER

in new premises opposite the Shire Hall, High St.

All goods will be found fresh and of superior quality.

Soft Drinks of every description.

Confectionery a Speciality.

Visitors to Shire Hall please bear this in mind.

Announcements

NORTHCOTE METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL.

FIFTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY.

Services will be continued as follows:—

Sunday, 21st March.

Preachers:

Morning at 11, Rev. E. T. COX.

Afternoon at 3, Rev. R. DITTERICH.

Evening, Rev. T. ALDAY.

SCHOLARS' NIGHT, TUESDAY, 23rd. Splendid Programme by Scholars. Dialogues, Action Songs, Recitations, &c. Silver Coin Admission.

Doors open 7.30. Commence at 8.

Notices

PRESTON CHILDREN'S ANNUAL EXCURSION, 1909.

BALANCE-SHEET.

RECEIPTS.—To Balance 1908, £21 7s 6d; Interest, 13s 2d; Tickets, £57 19s 2d; Contributions, £45 5s 3d; Sale of Goods, £1; Merry-go Round, 5s. Total, £126 10s 1d.

EXPENDITURE.—By Railway Department, £52 8s 5d; Refreshments, £43 18s 10d; Sports and Amusements, £11 9s 6d; Badges, 11s; Stationery, &c., 1s 3d; Printing and Advertising, £1 3s 9d; Ticket Donations, 9s 11d; Balance, £16 7s 5d. Total, £126 10s 1d.

Audited and found correct—

O. T. CHIPPE } Auditors
G. BRANSGROVE }

E. ALLCHIN, Chairman.
CHARLES SHOWERS, Hon. Treas.
CHAS. H. WARR, Hon. Sec.

Adopted 18 3-09.

NORTHCOTE FOOTBALL CLUB will receive applications for Head Trainer and Assistant Trainers. Application to be addressed to Hon. Secretary, A. Hotton, c/o Commercial Hotel, not later than 8.30 Tuesday, March 23rd.

Law.

MADDOCK, JAMIESON AND LONIE, SOLICITORS AND CONVEYANCERS,

Market Buildings 445 Collins Street MELBOURNE.

MADDEN, DRAKE & CANDY

SOLICITORS, PROCTORS, CONVEYANCERS,

436 COLLINS ST., MELBOURNE (next to Scott's Hotel). Tel. 196.

Mr. R. Candy's private address—88 Cunningham Street, Northcote.

HOME AND WILKINSON, SOLICITORS, CONVEYANCERS, &c.,

Commercial Union Chambers, 413 Collins Street, Melbourne.

Tel. 853.

W. J. HOME, Commissioner for Victoria.

A. S. WILKINSON. Private address—"Fylingdales," King William St., Preston

LOCAL OFFICE: McGeorge's Agency, High St., where Mr. Wilkinson will attend Tuesdays and Fridays from 8.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.

ROBERT G. BALL (HENDERSON & BALL), SOLICITORS, &c., Molesworth Chambers, 450 LITTLE COLLINS STREET (Chancery Lane), MELBOURNE.

Private Residence—"Landwor," Heidelberg Road, near Studley Road, Ivanhoe.

Tel. 973, City.

Music.

NORTHCOTE SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

MRS. LEONARD BAKER and MISS HILDA BAKER, OPPOSITE TOWN HALL, NORTHCOTE.

During 1908 fourteen pupils entered for examinations in four different grades, and all passed, two with honours.

Over 100 prizes in competitions.

Students prepared for examinations, &c.

Theory Class, Saturday, 6 to 7.

Terms on application.

MR. SIDNEY R. COLE, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., London; 10 years Professor and Examiner at the London Academy of Music; Licentiate, Royal Academy of Music London (Singing); Licentiate, Royal Academy of Music, London (Pianoforte); Associate, Royal College of Music, London (Pianoforte); PROFESSOR of VOICE PRODUCTION, SINGING and PIANOFORTE.

Mr. Cole is the only musician in Australia holding the Specialist (L.R.A.M.) Diploma in Two Subjects, from the Royal Academy of Music, London.

Lessons given at the residence of Mr. E. Lees, "Talgarno," Clarke St., Northcote, and at Allan's, Collins St.

L. BRENNECKE (Royal Cons., Cologne & Berlin), VIOLIN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONY, and COUNTERPOINT.

1 PLOW ST. (opp. Thornbury Railway Station).

MISS QUEENIE PARKER A.L.C.M., Receives and Visits Pupils for the PIANOFORTE.

Pupils prepared for London College, Conservatorium, &c., Exams.

"Norman," Waterloo Road, Northcote.

MISS M. V. MAGUIRE (pupil of Mr W. A. Laver, University Conservatorium). Registered teacher of PIANOFORTE, THEORY, & HARMONY. Pupils prepared for Matriculation and other Examinations.

Terms from £1 1s. Preston visited twice a week. Address—

162 High St. (opp. Town Hall), Northcote.

EDGAR B. SCHWAEBSCH, Teacher of PIANOFORTE.

Pupils prepared for Competitions and Examinations.

For Terms apply "Edgehill," 451 High St., Northcote.

J. E. RIPPER, PIANO and ORGAN BUILDER.

REPAIRS and TUNINGS a Speciality. All Work Guaranteed.

Factory—271 Smith Street, Fitzroy.

Private address—6 Martin St., Northcote.

MRS. and MISS WHEELER, Teachers PIANOFORTE, SINGING, &c.

Also accept engagement Concert, Dances (Piano and Violin).

Address: 27 Lawry Street, Northcote.

Dentists.

DENTISTRY.

T. WEBSTER, L.D.S. (Licentiate of Dental Surgery) M.A.C.D.

308 Queen's Parade, CLIFTON HILL.

Auction Notices

PRESTON and NORTHCOTE

Live Stock Market.

POULTRY, FURNITURE, SUNDRIES,

Every TUESDAY at 1 o'clock sharp.

Send your Poultry to us, good prices obtained.

MESSRS NICOL, MILLER & Co. will hold regular sales at their new yards, Tram Terminus, Preston, of Cattle, Pigs, Horses, Vehicles, &c.

Clients are requested to notify us as early as possible of stock coming forward.

Auction Sales of Land, Houses, Furniture, Stock, &c., conducted in any part of the district at lowest rates.

Local agents for the Liverpool & London & Globe Fire and Accident Co. Assets exceed £11,000,000.

Furniture stored free and sold on commission.

Anything and everything.

Houses wanted For Sale and To Let. Several good clients waiting.

NICOL, MILLER & CO., AUCTIONEERS, LIVE STOCK SALESMEN, TRAM TERMINUS, PRESTON.

Telephone 260, Brunswick.

THIS DAY, Saturday, March 20th, at one o'clock. SPECIAL HORSE SALE AT PRESTON.

NICOL, MILLER and Coy. Prop. Ltd. will hold a sale of horses and ponies on above date, including a truck of very superior draught colts and mares on account of Mr. Watkins, Charlton, to be forwarded Thursday and can be inspected at our yards. Also a big yarding of first class horses and ponies from surrounding districts. Further entries invited. Nicol, Miller and Co. Prop. Ltd., auctioneer, Northcote and Preston.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24th, at two o'clock, at our rooms, High Street, Upper Northcote. Important Auction Sale of Valuable Freehold Properties, Northcote and Preston.

NICOL, MILLER & Co. Prop. Ltd. have been instructed by the owners to sell by public auction as above.

Lot 1.—Land having a frontage of 340ft. 9in. to Elizabeth St. by a depth of 198ft. to Collins and Bruce Streets, Preston. This land is in a nice, high position, well fenced, with shed thereon, admirably suited for a poultry farm. Area, 1 acre 2 roods 8 perches. Title, certificate. exceptionally easy terms.

Lot 2.—Allotment having a frontage of 116 ft. to St. George's Road, by a depth of 105ft. along Shaftesbury Parade, Northcote. This land is high and dry. One of the best residential sites in the vicinity. Title, certificate. Terms very easy.

Lot 3.—Allotment having a frontage of 66 feet to Ballantyne street, by a depth of 134ft. 6in., Northcote, close to Thornbury station. A splendid villa site.

Lot 4.—Allotment having a frontage of 70 feet to Rossmoyne Street, Northcote, by a depth of 115ft., situated on top of hill, commanding splendid view. Title, certificate.

Further particulars apply Nicol, Miller & Co., Prop. Ltd., auctioneer, Northcote and Preston.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24th, at two o'clock, at our rooms, Tram Terminus, High Street, Upper Northcote.

NICOL, MILLER & CO., Prop. Ltd., and MR. G. A. PRINCE (in conjunction) have been instructed by the owner, Mrs. Francis E. Jones, to sell by public auction as above "Landsdowne," Westbourne Grove, Northcote, commodious substantially built D.F.W.B. Villa, containing 7 large rooms, dining room 20ft. x 16ft., other rooms 15ft. x 12ft., bathroom, large hall, kitchen, wash-house, sinks and troughs, land having a frontage of 40ft. to Westbourne Grove by a depth of 120ft. 9in.

The property is superbly situated on Rucker's Hill with a magnificent view of the city and suburbs. Only two minutes walk from Merri and Northcote railway stations, and close to High street tram. An excellent opportunity is afforded of obtaining a most convenient and comfortable family villa residence. Terms at sale. Title, certificate. Further particulars and orders to inspect from Nicol, Miller & Co., Prop. Ltd., auctioneer, Northcote and Preston.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 24th at two o'clock, at our rooms, Tram Terminus, High Street, Upper Northcote.

NICOL, MILLER, & CO., Prop., Ltd., have been instructed by the owner, who is leaving the district to sell by public auction, as above, Queen Anne Villa, 6 large rooms, Flinders Street, Northcote.

The villa is well and faithfully built, very comfortable and in excellent order, only having been erected within the last 12 months. The doors and windows are grained and varnished, handsome mantels, grates and tiled hearths. There are six spacious rooms, large hall through centre, pantry, cellar, bathroom, washhouse, copper, troughs, and sink, with a large well drained yard at rear. Front footpath to gate is tiled, and a neat front garden. The place is nicely fitted up thoroughout with a double gate entrance at the side. Land has a frontage of 50ft. to Flinders Street, by a depth of 133ft. and only three doors from High Street tram, and two minutes walk from Thornbury station, is situated in a nice high position. The sale is in consequence of the owner leaving the district and therefore affords a good opportunity to secure a home, or a sound investment in one of the most progressive and healthy suburbs of Melbourne.

Terms moderate. Title, certificate.

Particulars and orders to inspect from Nicol, Miller & Co. Prop. Ltd., auctioneer, Northcote and Preston.

Houses & Land For Sale.

McGEORGE BROS., AUCTIONEER and ESTATE AGENTS, HIGH STREET, PRESTON, and 858 Sydney Road (tram terminus), Brunswick, offer the following properties For Sale.

PRESTON.—Neat little cottage, 4 rooms, splendid order, large shed, fruit trees, land 28 x 200, £200. Terms arranged. McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Pretty W.B. villa, 6 rooms, conservatory, grounds planted, garden, fruit trees, stable, 1½ acres, £750. Easy terms. McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—No deposit, no interest. Allotments, 50 x 180, £27. Monthly payments 9/. Real choice building sites. Every block surveyed and pegged out. McGeorge Bros., agents for Sheffield Estate.

PRESTON.—Post Office Estate. A grand spec. Allotments, 34 x 115, £17 each. £3 deposit, few shillings monthly. Plans, McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Rare bargain. Modern Queen Anne villa, 6 splendid rooms, all comforts, stable, land 77 x 134, corner position, first-class railway ticket, £650. McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Realization. Grand building land, 123 x 190, splendidly situated. Quick sale, 7/6 foot. Plan on application. McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Best buying in district. Magnificent subdivisional block, corner two leading streets, facing station. Profit assured. McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Tyler street. Substantial brick villa, 6 rooms, bow window, splendid order, a valuable property, £425. McGeorge Bros.

AUCTION Sale.—This Day, Breese St., Brunswick. Vacant land, near Sydney road and railway line, on the ground at 3 o'clock. McGeorge Bros., auctioneer, 858 Sydney road, Brunswick and Preston.

FOR SALE, Cheap.—Three Brick Cottages, always let, in good order, good position, annual return £49. T. E. Redmond, Ironmonger, 410 High St., Northcote, or A. Robertson, Estate Agent, High street, Preston.

Houses & Land To Let.

PRESTON.—Villa, 6 rooms, fruit trees, 1½ acres, 17/6. Residence, 7 rooms, at station, 20/. Villa, 6 rooms, Regent street, 18/6. Villa, 7 rooms, fruit trees, land 50 x 200, 13/6. Villa, 5rooms, corner position, 10/. Villa, 6 rooms, large allotment, 11/6. Villa, 5 rooms, free railway ticket, 12/6. Villa, 7 rooms, ½ acre, 12/6. Cottage, 5 rooms, open position, 6/6. Cottage, 4 rooms, 2 acres, 7/6. Shop, 4 rooms, business centre, 8/. McGeorge Bros., rent collectors, Preston and Brunswick.

H. ADAMS,

BUTCHER,

322 High Street,

NORTHCOTE.

LATE W. H. TACEY.

ONLY ONE QUALITY KEPT—THE BEST.

The high standard of excellence, which made Mr. Tacey's name famous in this progressive district will still be maintained.

Telephone 114, Brunswick.

NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER FIRM.

Local Government.

TOWN OF NORTHCOTE.

SANITARY AND MEAT INSPECTOR.

Applications will be received until 12 noon on Saturday, the 20th inst., from persons qualified for the joint office of Sanitary and Meat Inspector to the Council of the Town of Northcote at a salary at the rate of £150 per annum.

Applicants must hold the certificate of Meat Inspector under the Meat Supervision Act.

Particulars of duties may be inspected at this office.

Personal canvass of Councillors will be deemed a disqualification.

By Order,
W. G. SWIFT,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Northcote,
March 5th, 1909.

TOWN OF NORTHCOTE.

OVERSEER OF WORKS.

Applications will be received until 12 noon on Saturday, the 20th inst., from persons competent to discharge duties of Overseer of Works to the Council of the Town of Northcote at a salary at the rate of £156 per annum.

Particulars of duties may be inspected at this office.

Personal canvass of Councillors will be deemed a disqualification.

By Order,
W. G. SWIFT,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Northcote,
March 5th, 1909.

Tenders.

TENDERS are invited for additions and alterations to Presbyterian Church, Northcote. Tenders close Monday, 29th of March. CAMPBELL & KERNOT, Architects, 267 Collins St, City.

Yes! Yes! Yes!

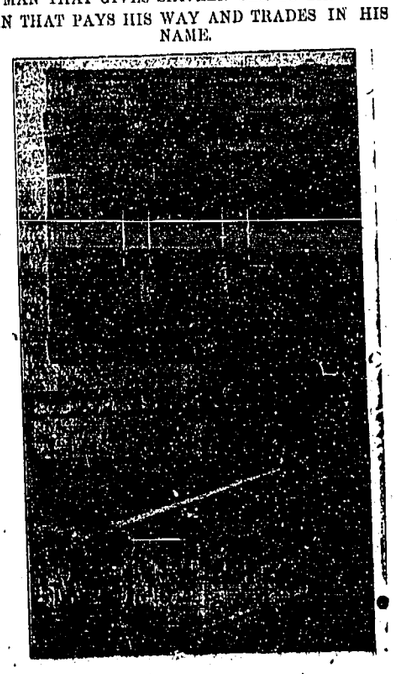
THIS IS SINCLAIR'S,

The PEOPLE'S BUTCHER,

THE FIRST BUTCHER IN NORTHCOTE TO GIVE YOU CHEAP MEAT.

THE MAN THAT GIVES SIXTEEN OZS. TO THE POUND.

THE MAN THAT PAYS HIS WAY AND TRADES IN HIS OWN NAME.



Local Government.

TOWN OF NORTHCOTE.

CATTLE ENCLOSURE.

NOTICE is hereby given that the land situate at High and Roberts streets has been appointed by the Council as the place for the safe custody of Cattle found within the town without any person in charge of them seized by the officers of the Council as provided by the 13th schedule to the "Local Government Act."

By order,
W. G. SWIFT,
Town Clerk.

20-3-09.

SHIRE OF EPPING.

NOTICE is hereby given that interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum will be charged on all rates not paid on or before 31st March, 1909.

JAMES RYAN,
Shire Secretary.

18th March, 1909.

Wanted.

GIRL.—To help with household duties. Mrs. C. H. Richardson, "Aldersyde," High-st., Preston.

CLERK, Junior Lady Book-keeper, must be good at figures, constant. Apply Monday 10 a.m. to O. Gilpin, "Nyora," Normanby avenue, Upper Northcote.

SMART, respectable lad, learn grocery business. Good opening. W. Williams, High st.

APPRENTICE to the fancy hat coverings and wire shapes. 449 High street, Northcote.

BOY, 15 or 16. Apply Preston Nursery, 43 Raglan-st., S. Preston.

Do not advertise and stop,
But advertise and stay;
For those who read your ad. last time
Will look for it to-day.

In these our very strenuous days,
The merchant who is wise
Seeks many new and catchy ways
His goods to advertise.

Business Announcements

AUTUMN GOODS AND NEW SEASON'S NOVELTIES AT

HATTAM & HATTAM'S,

DRAPERS, NORTHCOTE.

NEW GOODS!
NEW GOODS!

Here are a few lines:—

VELVETEENS.

Twenty-eight different shades, or a total of 579 yards, bought special. New season's price 1/- yd.

BLOUSINGS

in endless variety, upwards of 1000 yards to select from, ranging in prices 6d, 6½d, 7½d, 8½d, 9½d and 1/- yard. These are the very latest designs.

FURS.

These we have bought exceptionally well. Black will be the principal color this season.

MILLINERY.

See our Untrimmed Straws & Felts, very stylish; also about 25 boxes of Assorted Flowers, Roses, Violets, Birds, Feather, Wings, and Quills. The above have been bought keen and marked low—not the fancy City prices. Our values will startle you.

HOSIERY.

Our values knock them all all out, needless to quote prices, but our ¾ Socks, in four different grades, just in this week, are good. Ladies' plain and ribbed Cashmere Hose at 1/, 1/6, and 1/11 pair are perfect values.

GLOVES.

Mitts, 10½d, 1/-; Long Lisle Gloves, 1/-, 1/6, 1/11, 2/6; Colored Kid Gloves, guaranteed, 2/11 pair; Long Undressed White Kid Gloves, elbow length, 2/11 pr.

Visit Hattam & Hattam, Northcote's Busy Drapers.

BEST & CO.

We are showing a full range of

AUTUMN & WINTER GOODS

and having bought in the right market at the RIGHT TIME, we can offer you some exceptional VALUE now altho' the commencement of the season.

Blousing Flannelettes.—A choice range, flannel designs, at all prices. Our 8d line is well worth 1/-

White, Pink & Cream Flannelettes.—A heavy stock to select from. Our leader at 6d is quite up to usual 7½d value.

Lustres.—We have secured a small parcel of 2/9 value which we can offer at 1/9 per yard.

Hosiery.—At the **correct moment** we bought heavily and secured big discounts and can practically offer you last season 1/6 values at 1/-

Men's (cotton-wool) **Cashmere** Half Hose at 6d pair.

Laces & Embroideries.—For variety and price with quality we are again far ahead of all comers. We can offer you the choicest designs in Laces at 2/11 yard, for which in any City retailers you would be charged from 5/- to 6/. All who examine become purchasers and save from 20 to 30 per cent. by doing so.

Ribbons.—A full range of the newest shades at old cut prices.

Mercery & Boys' Clothing.—Our Winter Stock is very complete, and we are making special prices to push this very important branch of our business.

MISS HARLEY wishes her many friends to call early for their Easter fitting as only three weeks now remain to Easter and she is very busy with new season orders.

BEST & CO.

DRAPERS & MERCERS,

HIGH ST. UPPER NORTHCOTE.

F. G. SMITH

DRAPERS, ETC.,

245 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.

LAST DAY OF SALE!

Now is your opportunity to buy before we open up New Season's Goods.

The Mayor's Resignation

CR. THARRATT MAKES A STATEMENT.

WHOLE MATTER DISCUSSED.

There was general surprise and regret last week when it became known that Cr. Tharratt, one of the most able, successful, and popular mayors the Town of Northcote has known had resigned his position. He would give no reasons for his serious step last week, but promised to make a statement at the meeting of the town council on Monday evening. Expectation of this attracted a great crowd of ratepayers to the council chamber, and the suppressed excitement prior to the proceedings being commenced could be felt.

Being without a mayor the first business was to elect a chairman, and Cr. Plant, as the immediate ex-mayor present, was appointed.

The resignation of the mayor was the first business taken. A letter was read from Cr. Tharratt resigning office as mayor, but intimating that he would retain his seat in the council till August.

The chairman then asked Cr. Tharratt if he had any statement to make.

Cr. Tharratt said he had reserved making any statement till now, as he considered his first duty with regard to that was to the council who had elected him to the position. They had heard a lot about cliques, but there was only one clique, the members of which seemed to put the name of councillor before the interests of the town. After these preliminary remarks Cr. Tharratt made the following statement:—"In resigning the office of mayor and in handing the keys to the town clerk I did not act hastily, but after full consideration and with your permission and the consent of this council I would like to lay the position before you as it appears to me. As a boy and man I have always taken a keen interest in municipal affairs in Northcote, and remember protesting against dividing the town into wards—an action that to my mind was entirely undemocratic, for I take it that one of the first principles in democracy is that taxation should carry with it representation—or in other words the representative should be responsible to the taxpayer. From the action taken then I largely attribute the present most unsatisfactory state of affairs. But to get to the present situation. As most of you know I started life in Northcote. I have had no assistance from anyone and while still a young man I have secured a fair competency, and can look out on the future without much dread. I then felt that I owed a duty to my fellow townsmen, and that if I had any ability I should place it at their disposal. The wrangling that was going on between the various wards was detrimental to their interests, and I resolved to ask for the confidence of the ratepayers of the west ward, and endeavour to show that more good work could be done by co-operation than by intrigue—that the cry of north versus south should not exist—but that all should pull together for the common good. When the ratepayers returned me to the council I endeavoured to fit myself for the position by getting a good grip of the true position of affairs, by a close study of the Local Government Act, and by taking my full share of the work. This met with the approval of my colleagues, and at the end of twelve months I was elected mayor. At the end of my first term, which was to me a very happy one, and you were pleased to say a useful one—(Hear, hear)—you unanimously re-elected me for a second term, and I looked forward to another year of usefulness; but this was not to be. The personnel of the council had changed and a disturbing element was introduced. And was so determined to be offensive that I felt that all my efforts to secure united action were fruitless, and with sorrow I noticed that the councillor who was setting the majority of the councillors by the ears and creating discord and strife was being "egged on" by those from whom I had a right to expect full support. Having come to the conclusion that I could be of no use against this determined set, I resolved, about six weeks ago, to resign my position, but was urged to make a further effort. Being no doubt amazed at his own moderation, and urged on by those who had the will but not the fibre, Cr. Robb went still further with his Yarra-bank methods, and was kind enough to inform us last Monday night, in his usual gentlemanly manner, that I was quite unworthy of my position, and had no right to be mayor. Agreeing with him in my own mind that I have no right to be where he is I dared to smile at the violent outburst of abuse and vituperation we were treated to. Now, gentlemen, I have no time to waste on this sort of thing. I can say I came to the council with clean hands, and had no axe to grind, and can go out, leaving behind me a record in the minute book and in the town that I need not be ashamed of. It was a wrench to give up a position that I feel I held at the wish of the majority of councillors—the highest position in the power of the ratepayers to bestow—but I could not retain it and my self respect. I thank you for your kindness and assistance in the past, and in conclusion express my firm conviction that while it remains possible for 5½ per cent. of the ratepayers to send a representative to the council, they who can play on the passions and prejudices of a small section will win, and you will not have government broad based upon the people's will.

The chairman moved—

That this council place on record its deep regret that Cr. Tharratt has felt it necessary to resign the office of mayor, after filling the position in such an excellent, successful and exemplary manner.

Cr. Williams, in seconding the motion, said:—At the last meeting of the council the mayor and myself were deputed to interview two of the applicants for the position of tramway engineer, and upon satisfying ourselves as to their credentials and suitability to make an appointment of one of them in order that he could immediately enter upon his duties. These two gentlemen were selected by ballot by the whole of the council from the 13 applicants, and it was, therefore, felt that our duty in making a selection would be a comparatively easy one. It was not, however, so simple as it appeared on the surface, for after interviewing these two gentlemen we were unanimous as to the unsuitability of one of them, and, whilst not questioning the professional qualifications of the other, we were unable to agree as to his fitness for the position. After conferring together we decided to go through the remaining applications, three of whom—those we considered most suitable—we invited to meet us. We did this, and under the circumstances of our disagreement we decided to refer two out of the last three whom we interviewed, and the first man whom we could not agree upon to the whole council so that we should be relieved of the responsibility of a final selection. You will observe that our action was perfectly fair, unbiassed, and above-board—that there was absolutely nothing which could give rise to the suspicion of anything underhand or dishonorable. Yet, I regret to state, that our action was construed by certain councillors into a subterfuge on our part to defeat the chances of the appointment of one of the applicants and to promote the chances of one of the others. We were the victims of one of the cruelest and most cowardly charges that one could possibly conceive, and, speaking personally, I might say that never in my career have I been subjected to such inexcusable and impardonable insult as we received at the hands of Councillors Robb and Archbold on Monday evening last.

There was a laugh here from ratepayers present, and Cr. Harry rose and asked the chairman if he intended to allow the wide discussion that Cr. Williams was opening up.

The chairman said he was going to allow every latitude, as the whole thing should have full publicity.

Cr. Harry—That's all right then.

Cr. Williams, continuing, said:—After hearing the facts which have been detailed by the mayor, and which have forced him into the extremely regrettable and unfortunate position of having to resign his office, one cannot help but feel deeply affected. My present object is not, however, to give expression to feelings of regret and sympathy which I feel towards him, because he has already been assured of these privately, but to raise my voice in protest, not only to the undignified treatment which has been meted out to him, but at the scurrilous charges which have been levelled against him by a certain section of the council. Being associated with the mayor in the matter which is responsible for his resignation, I am able to look at the facts from the same standpoint as himself, and taking into consideration the undignified conduct which was exhibited by certain members of the council in committee of the whole, I feel that I should be lacking in the common elements of manhood were my tongue to remain silent, and, were I to shirk my responsibility in failing to stand up and defend the position both of the mayor and myself in the matter, and I have been forced to the conclusion that my position here as a councillor is to a great extent shorn of its dignity by having for one's brother councillors, men who are prepared to outrage their gentlemanly instincts and their kindly feelings to such a reprehensible degree as did these councillors—Cr Woolhouse included—on Monday evening last. (Laughter).

Cr. Smith, in supporting the motion, said it was a great pity that the mayor had been forced to resign; but he had often wondered how he stood what he had had to put up with so long. He (Cr. Tharratt) often went home from the council meetings so upset by it that he never slept a wink. Had it been him (Cr. Smith) he would have taken no notice of such men—it would have only been like water on a duck's back. (Laughter). But it was awful to hear the remarks the mayor had had to put up with, and through dirty innuendos he had been forced to resign And this by his own colleagues too. Had it come from the south he would not have thought so much about it. (Laughter). One would think to hear these gentlemen talk that they were the only pure gentlemen and all the rest were scandalous. The mayor had always acted as a gentleman and had given these particular gentlemen more latitude than they should have got, and he regretted they should have given him such a poor return for it.

Cr. Candy said he regretted that the mayor should have been forced to resign by his own colleagues. Certainly Cr. Robb acted in a very disgraceful manner at the committee meeting, and should have apologised. He and others raised an amount of suspicion for which there was no cause whatever. Out of pure cussedness some of these councillors voted, in connection with the appointment of a tramway engineer, against their own conscience. A man who did that was not worthy of being a councillor. He (Cr. Candy) regretted that the mayor had retired and that there was no chance of him re-considering his position.

The chairman—Don't say that.

Cr. Candy hoped he might re-consider it. It would be a severe lesson to those who had placed him in the position he was to-night.

Cr. Archbold said that till Cr. Williams went off like a packet of crackers he did not know he was one of the clique. He had spoken to the mayor on the telephone since and he did not bracket his name with the others.

Cr. Tharratt—Repeat the whole of the conversation.

The chairman—Is it fair that you should go into these things?

Cr. Archbold went on to say that Cr. Tharratt was himself to blame. In committee the applicants for the position of tramway engineer were reduced to 2 and the Mayor and Cr. Williams (chairman of the tramway committee) were instructed by the council to make a selection from those two. Instead of doing this they brought in others, one of whom had been discarded, though having apparently the best of qualifications, because Cr. Williams had raised it against him that he was a friend of Mr. Dorum and of Mr. Henderson and had assisted the latter in his work here. Imagine his surprise then, when he heard from an outside source that this man, discarded on Cr. Williams's testimony, had again been brought into the final selection. Even Cr. Smith got up and slated Cr. Williams for going back on his word, saying he was a man with no backbone or something of that sort. (Laughter). It was in these circumstances he (Cr. Archbold) got up and told the Mayor and Cr. Williams that they had been guilty of an act of grave indiscretion and had exceeded their duties. He (Cr. Archbold) asked the mayor if they went through the whole of the applications again, but he would not say whether they had or not.

Cr. Williams—We did go through them.

Cr. Archbold, continuing, said several of them objected in strong language, feeling, as he said, that the Mayor and Cr. Williams had exceeded their duty and that they had been guilty of an act which was open to grave suspicion, but so far as he was concerned nothing malicious and nothing scurrilous was said. He had not the vocabulary of vindictive expression possessed by Cr. Williams and he would like to remind that gentleman that he could never hope to succeed as a public man till he was able to control his temper.

Cr. Williams—I don't want your advice, anyhow.

Cr. Archbold said he would like to say in conclusion that he was not a bit ashamed of what he had said on the previous Monday night. He would say it anywhere. At the same time he was sorry the mayor had been led to resign, as no man had given more time to nor greater satisfaction in the position. But if he disagreed with the mayor he claimed the right of telling him so.

Cr. Williams—You should not have accused him of dishonesty.

Cr. Archbold said he never had any intention of doing such a thing as that.

Cr. Woolhouse said he never dreamt for one moment that the mayor had any ill-feeling towards him. If he had anything on his mind he should have come to him when they were working together down at the picnic and told him of it. But if Cr. Tharratt could not stand him he could sit down to him. He did not care a continental. (Laughter).

The chairman—We don't know what that is.

Cr. Woolhouse—You can get it at Coles'. (Laughter).

Cr. Woolhouse proceeded to discant on Cr. Williams's qualifications to select an engineer, stating he thought he would be a much better judge of bread and cheese. (Laughter).

Cr. Smith—Scissors to grind. (Laughter).

Cr. Woolhouse—Pork sausages. (Laughter).

The chairman having interposed,

Cr. Woolhouse proceeded to give the version of the situation as described by Cr. Archbold and repeated that the mayor and Cr. Williams were authorised to interview and select from two engineers only. In going further they exceeded their duties. He regretted that the mayor had seen fit to tender his resignation. He (Cr. Woolhouse) thought he had a thicker skin. He had respected Cr. Tharratt as a man and as a colleague and as mayor he considered that he had done even more than his duty.

Cr. Hayes supported the motion, remarking that Cr. Tharratt was one of the best mayors the town ever had, and he had often been amazed at the work he put in on its behalf. Referring to Cr. Woolhouse, Cr. Hayes said that he (Cr. Woolhouse) said after the engineer was selected—"The other was the best man but I did not vote for him."

Cr. Woolhouse denied this, but Cr. Plant said he also heard him say it.

Cr. Hayes, continuing, said he thought Cr. Tharratt had made a mistake in resigning. He should have kept on to the end of his term. At the same time he (Cr. Hayes) had to admit, that people could not help their feelings. He would be glad to hear of him re-considering his position. (Hear, hear).

Cr. Bastings said he very much regretted the action the mayor had thought fit to take. But it was all, as Cr. Smith had said, a matter of temperament. What would have run like water off a duck's back in the case of Cr. Smith, Cr. Tharratt took home to sleep with.

Cr. Smith—*Not* to sleep with.

Cr. Bastings—In fighting for what one believed to be right he (Cr. Bastings) believed in hitting hard, but the blows should be fair. Cr. Archbold now said he was sorry Cr. Tharratt had resigned. Why did he not show some of this feeling before? Coming to the question of appointing an engineer Cr. Bastings said he did not believe in the principle of delegating their choice to two councillors, but when those two councillors, on investigation of their claims considered neither of the engineers would suit he thought they were quite within their rights in looking into the claims of the other applicants and submitting them to the council. He would again say that he honestly regretted that the mayor had been forced into this position.

Cr. Harry said he could endorse all the good things which had been said regarding the way Cr. Tharratt had filled the position of mayor. No man had given so much of his time in the interests of the municipality or been a more excellent chairman, and as far as he (Cr. Harry) was concerned he had always received from him fair play. But if Cr. Tharratt had contemplated this step for the last six weeks why was so much stress laid on what transpired on Monday night last? When the applications for the position of engineer were being considered he (Cr. Harry) named a certain man, but Cr. Williams made a great speech against him.

Cr. Williams—I made no speech.

Cr. Harry—Well it was through what Cr. Williams said I voted against this applicant, though he was head and shoulders above the others so far as credentials were concerned. After that the mayor and Cr. Williams made a big mistake in bringing this applicant back in the running. Coming in a little late to the committee meeting he did not perhaps hear all that was said, but what he did hear was certainly not sufficient to cause any man to resign. As for Cr. Robb he did not think any councillor ever showed more courtesy to the chair than he had.

Cr. McIntosh also supported the motion. He was very sorry indeed that Cr. Tharratt had thought it necessary to resign, as he had given his ability, his time, and his money freely in the interests of the ratepayers and also his brother councillors. But what had happened would perhaps do good. It would cause some to put a bridle on their tongues. This last six months it had been perfectly unbearable, and he often went home disgusted that men should lower themselves by throwing out such slurs on their brother councillors.

Cr. Robb said it seemed that he had come out in a new role. He had always thought he was a pretty respectable member of society, but now it appeared nothing was bad enough to be said about him. To show him his failings there had been a good deal said about "clean hands," "dignity," and "truth." Cr. Tharratt had spoken about him as "a Yarra Banker." That was a lie to begin with. He (Cr. Robb) had never spoken on the Yarra Bank in his life.

Cr. Tharratt—I only spoke of Yarra Bank methods.

Cr. Robb went on to say he liked sincerity in man. His action last Monday night was said to be the cause of this crisis, yet Cr. Tharratt had told them that night he had been considering this step for the last six weeks. All that time he regarded Cr. Tharratt as a personal friend. That showed the kind of man they had got to deal with He had held positions just as high as Cr. Tharratt had. Men had sat under his (Cr. Robb's) chairmanship whom Cr. Tharrat was not fit to black the boots of.—

A ratepayer—Hear, hear.

The chairman—This kind of thing must stop, the person doing it again will be removed.

Cr. Robb (continuing)—One of them was Professor Kernot, at whose graveside he would stand the following day, and another, Mr. Thwaites. He esteemed those gentlemen and it was reciprocated. He, therefore, knew the position of chairman and the respect that was due to it. Yet Cr. Williams had talked of his (Cr. Robb's) "scurrilous" language to the chair. No wonder they had empty churches when they had local preachers of Cr. Williams's stamp in the pulpit.

The chairman—You might leave the church out.

Cr. Robb, continuing, said no man had upheld the mayor better than himself. He had supported him at different times against Crs. Smith, Plant, and Mitchell. He (Cr. Robb) was charged with making "scurrilous charges," with "ungentlemanly conduct," with "insulting the chairman," and yet at the time not one councillor got up and said he had exceeded the bounds of fair criticism. Subsequently the same night he met Cr. Tharratt on other matters, and they exchanged remarks and were quite friendly, finally walking home together with Crs. Archbold and Hayes as far as Woolton avenue. There was not one word from Cr Tharratt as to any improper remark of his (Cr. Robb's). Two days after they met at the game of bowls with Preston and still there was not a word about it. But lo and behold, on the Thursday he heard from Cr. Harry that the mayor had resigned. He (Cr. Robb) said "Surely not!" He could not believe it, and could find no explanation. The very last thing he would have thought of was that he was the cause of it. But if the same situation occurred to-morrow he would have just to act in the same way. He was fighting for a principle and would continue to do that so long as he remained in public life. He desired to take the full responsibility of his position, and not to shuffle it on to others as the majority did when they asked the mayor and chairman of the tramway committee to select an engineer. He (Cr. Robb) strongly objected to the whole procedure. Through what Cr. Williams said about one gentleman who had the best of testimonials, and whom he (Cr. Robb) had known and known favorably for over 30 years, he was thrown out, his (Cr. Robb's) vote being with the majority. Yet they afterwards found that this was one of the gentlemen recommended to the council. That was the point he took and that was why he said the mayor and Cr. Williams had exceeded their duties. He spoke strongly, but never imputed any wrong motive. While he was speaking on the subject, the mayor, who was supposed to be impartial, sat with a cynical smile. He (Cr Robb) asked him the reason of it and he replied "I can't help it." He (Cr. Robb) knew his duty towards the chair, but if the chair does not show dignity and courtesy it cannot expect to receive it. More than once the chairman of that meeting had complimented him upon his fairness as a fighter, telling him he hit hard, but they always knew where he was. Cr. Tharratt, during his statement that night had uttered a jibe about "getting the name of councillor," but he (Cr. Robb) would remind them that he was a councillor not by his own wish nor in his own interests, but owing to the pressure of the ratepayers. That afternoon he had gone to Cr. Tharratt's place of business about some work there was to be done in the ward. He (Cr. Robb) held out his hand to shake hands with him, "Oh no," he said, "I can't shake hands with a man like you." He had no time for men of my class and walked away. He insulted him (Cr. Robb) but he did not care for that; but he insulted also the people who sent him there. As for abolishing the wards he did not care for that. He would stand his chance and let the people decide. For the mayor to resign under these circumstances was a childish act. Why, if they took notice of every little thing that was said men like Deakin or Reid would resign 50 times in a night. He would say Cr. Tharratt acted well as mayor, but he did a most contemptible thing in coming up and making a charge against him without letting him know the reason of it. What occurred in the committee was so trivial that in a few minutes it had altogether passed out of his mind. With regard to the "disturbing element" referred to he hoped there would be more of it. There would be more movement—some would be moved off—

The chairman—I hope you don't refer to me. (Laughter).

Cr. Robb, continuing, said that after Cr. Tharratt had said he was no class for him he asked him if he would take the position of mayor again and he said he would not take it on any consideration. If he had done anything to apologise for he would have been the first to do it. He wanted to shake hands with him and would now. They could only judge a man by his deeds.

Cr. Mitchell, in supporting the motion, said it was a disgrace the way the applicants had been talked about. After such an experience he would not think of applying to the Northcote council for a position. As for the other matter he was sorry the mayor had taken such a step. He thought it was a wrong one. The mayor gave Cr. Robb far more latitude than ever he (Cr. Mitchell) would have given him. (Laughter).

The chairman in traversing some of the statements made said he thought the Mayor and Cr. Williams, when they could not agree as to either of the applicants being suitable, did the right thing in throwing the responsibility of an appointment on the council and he would say that nasty motives were insinuated against Crs. Tharratt and Williams when they submitted other applicants to the consideration of the committee.

Crs. Robb and Archbold denied imputing any such motives.

The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

It was decided to call a meeting of the council for next Monday night to elect a mayor.

HEADACHE AND BODY PAINS.

Could Not Sleep—Lost all Appetite—Always in Pain—A Housewife's Gratitude to Bile Beans.

Suffering always from Headache, Dizziness, and acute pains in the back and sides, the life of Miss H. Chesson, of Russell street, Adelaide, S.A., was a constant misery till Bile Beans brought her back to health and strength. "For about four years I was a perfect stranger to good health," says Miss Chesson. I was never free from headaches, giddiness, and pains in the back and sides. I could not sleep and lost all appetite. I was greatly reduced in flesh, and was hardly recognisable as my former self. I gained the advice of several medical men, but their treatment proved unavailing. I then went under an examination, and I was advised to go to the hospital and undergo an operation, as the only means of saving my life. Next day a friend, who had derived great benefit from Bile Beans, advised me to give them a trial before agreeing to the operation. I decided to follow this advice, and underwent a thorough course of the Beans, extending over several months. The effect was soon manifested, and my return to health and strength shortly followed. I can now enjoy life as formerly, for which my entire thanks are due to Bile Beans."

Bile Beans regulate the Stomach, Liver, and digestive organs in Nature's way, thus promptly curing Biliousness, Indigestion, Headache, Debility, Anæmia, Lost Appetite, Restless Sleep, and all functional derangements. 1/1½ and 2/9 per box, of all Chemists and Stores.

RUB IT IN

For cuts, burns, bruises, scalds, raw chapped hands, chilblains, cold sores, eczema, and all irritating and diseased conditions of the skin. Zam-Buk is free both from caustic fats and mineral poisons being made only of the extracts from rare healing plants. It is so refined that the skin absorbs it at once and receives a healthier tone. Nothing is so healing, soothing, and pure or so highly antiseptic. You may rub Zam-Buk in to rub all pain, disease, and irritation out.

Zam-Buk

Sold at all chemists and stores at 1/6 per box; family size, 3/6 (containing nearly four times as much); also direct for same price from the Zam-Buk Co., Pyrl St., Lond.

Dress and Fashion.

MISS GRINDLAY
DRESSMAKER,
(Late of George & George),
"RAVENNA," DERBY AVENUE,
UPPER NORTHCOTE,
rear Kimberley Hall.
Evening and Wedding Dresses a Specialty.

Miss E. Bown,
DRESSMAKER,
"Craglea," corner Robert & Mason Sts.,
NORTHCOTE SOUTH
(near Clarke St).

AFTER Saturday, 20th February, 1909, Miss Bown will carry on Dressmaking at her private address (see above), instead of 94 High St.

A trial solicited. Charges moderate.

Announcements.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR

Real Good Footwear?

THEN

MRS. POLLOCK'S
FEDERAL BOOT SHOP,
529 HIGH ST., UPPER NORTHCOTE,
is the place to get suited.

No matter where you go you cannot get better goods at such prices.

EXTENSIVE STOCK TO CHOOSE FROM.

A TRIAL SOLICITED.

NERO FIDDLES
WHILE
ROME BURNS.

I suppose he was insured against Fire.

You may fiddle while your

HOME BURNS

if it is insured in the

London Assurance
NO FEAR OF EXTINCTION.
Funds, £4,000,000.

Cr. R. ARCHBOLD, Victorian Manager.
ERNEST LEES, Local Agent

Mrs. Brosnan
DESIRES to notify that she has opened
TEA ROOMS
at
591 HIGH STREET, PRESTON
(opposite old library).

Famous I.X.L. Ice Cream. Soft Drinks and Confectionery.

Also Cooked Meats and Small Goods of the very best.

Patronage respectfully solicited.

COOPER'S,
HIGH STREET, PRESTON,
for
ICE CREAM, SUMMER DRINKS, and CONFECTIONERY.

MISS I. THOMPSON, St. George's Rd., Northcote (corner Morley Street), FRUIT, CONFECTIONERY, and FANCY GOODS. Fresh Fruit direct from our own orchard at Ardmona.

MISS THOMPSON (same address), DRESSMAKER.

W. NEWMAN,
MANUFACTURER OF
PLASTER AND CEMENT ORNAMENTS.

No. 223 BEAVER'S ROAD, NORTHCOTE.
Close to St. George's Road.

Established 21 years.

Carl Oldenburg,
SADDLE, HARNESS, AND COLLAR MAKER,
365 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE
(opposite Brickworks).

Whips, Bits, Sponges, and other Stable Requisites in stock.

Secondhand Harness taken in exchange or bought.

Repairs neatly and promptly executed.

Notice to the Public.

HAVING now purchased the late B. T. JAMES' NURSERY, Union Street, Northcote, I am now prepared to supply at lowest rates—Hardy Ornamental Shade Trees and Plants of all kinds, Climbing and Twining Plants, Plants for Hedges, &c.

ROSE in great variety.

FRUIT TREES of all kinds.

YOU ARE INVITED TO INSPECT

C. J. Jackson,
UNION STREET NORTHCOTE.

PLANTS & SEEDLINGS,
ROSES, CARNATIONS, &c.,
at Lowest Prices.

COME and SEE the ROSES in Bloom
Everybody welcome.

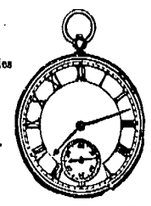
BAILTON BROS.,
PRESTON NURSERY, RAGLAN ST.,
SOUTH PRESTON.

ARTISTIC FLORAL WORK of every description. Also hall and other Decorations.—MISS JACKSON, Clarke St., Northcote.

Notices

Wm. Walker,
WATCHMAKER
AND
JEWELLER
32 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE SOUTH.

Spectacles to Suit all Sights.



Watch Glasses and Keys Fitted.

WEDDING AND BIRTHDAY PRESENTS
BROOCH PINS.

F. C. CORNISH
& Co.,
Cash Grocers,
255 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.

7 0lb. bag best 1A Sugar, 13/
25lb. bag best Flour, 2/4½
Best New Currants, 6½d lb.
" " Sultanas, 7½d lb.
" " Lemon Peel, 6½d
" " Raisins, 6½ lb.
Mildura " 4½ lb.
Best soft shell Almonds, 9½d lb.
Raspberry Vinegar, 6d, 10½d, and 1/ bot.
1lb. boxes Muscatel Raisins, 1/ box
Best Preserved Ginger, 7½d lb.
Preserved Pineapples, 5½d tin
" Apricots (Hoadley's), 7½d tin
Hoadley's dark Plum Jam, 5½d tin
" Tomato Sauce, 5½d bottle
Table Jellies, 10½d doz.
Flavoring Essences, 4½d bottle
Barcelona Nuts, 7½d lb.
Plum Puddings, 10½d, 1/4½, 2/3 tin

P.S.—There is no better place to get your wants supplied than

CORNISH'S.

Stocktaking Sale
of
FANCY GOODS,
VASES,
GLASSWARE,
STATIONERY,
TOYS,
POST CARDS,
&c.

ALL ARTICLES GREATLY REDUCED.

FOR ONE MONTH ONLY.

Commencing Saturday, 13th March, at

A. LEWIS'S,
350 QUEEN'S PARADE,
NORTH FITZROY.

Business Notices.

TELEPHONE 2006.

A. THARRATT & CO.,

Furnishing & Builders' Ironmongers,

HIGH & SEPARATION Sts., NORTHCOTE.

PAINTS,
Oils, Colors, Leads, Harland's Varnishes, Siennas, Umbers, Hessian, and materials on hand.
Cheapest in Northcote.
Large stock of Brushes, Sash Tools, Oval Ground Calcimo, Lime, etc.

COPPERS.
We supply the well known Seamless Coppers, made in one piece, never leak.
Also Portable Coppers, complete, with frame, chimney, & grate. From 10 gallon upwards. Cheap.
Please inspect.

Authorised Depot for
SEWERAGE FITTINGS.
Trested.
Bends, Ties, Elbows, Pipes, &c.

WATER PIPE.
Galvanised, ½ in. or ¾ in., also fittings for same.
Large stock of Bib Taps, &c.

STOVES, OVENS, GRATES.
Latest designs.
Iron Chimneys. Baths, 24 inch guage Iron, very best.
2 Division Wash Troughs, cheap.
"Bobs" Cooking Stoves for wood or coal, economical and durable.
Wire Fencing, Barbed Wire, Netting, for sale, cheap.
24 x 2, 36 x 2, 48 x 2, 72 x 2, all guages.

GALVANISED IRON,
"Redcliff" brand,
Best and Cheapest.
Spouting, Ridging, Down Pipe.
Queen's Head Galvanised Plain Iron. 3ft., 2ft. 6in., 2ft. x 24, 26, 28 guage.

THARRATT'S SAW MILL.
All kinds of Joinery done for the trade Sawing, &c.
FIREWOOD.
Coke, Coal, Stove Wood, Mixed Blocks at lowest rates.

Houses Furnished.

RENDLE & SONS,
244-246 SMITH STREET,
COLLINGWOOD.

80 Diningroom Suites, all prices
70 Bedroom " "
60 Sideboards "

200 Rolls of Linoleums, Oilcloths and Carpets just imported. Splendid Patterns.

We keep Everything in House Furnishing.

CASH or TERMS:—
£3 worth for 1/- weekly
£6 " 2/- "
£8 " 2/6 "
£12 " 3/- "
£15 " 3/6 "
£20 " 5/- "

Rendle & Sons 244-246 Smith St., Collingwood
Phone 3887.

E. FELLOWES,
COACHBUILDER

AND
SHOEING FORGE
HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE
(Opposite Croxton station).

IF YOU WANT to purchase a cheap & good Vehicle.
IF YOU WANT your Vehicle repaired expeditiously and faithfully.
IF YOU WANT your Horse sent for, shod on the shortest notice and returned.
IF YOU WANT to exchange your old Vehicle.
Call on the above who is prepared to deal liberally with you.

He has one of the largest Coachbuilding Factories in Melbourne and suburbs, a large and efficient staff of workmen and up-to-date plant.

What more can be desired by a customer?

W. WOOLHOUSE & CO.,
Sheffield Cutlers and Umbrella Manufacturers,
143-145 BOURKE ST. EAST
(Above Russell St.)

LINES BY A LONGFELLOW.

To Woolhouse & Co. I advise you to go,
Umbrellas they make and their prices are low;
Whilst in quality, too, the public still know
No Cutlers here please them like Woolhouse and Co.
In the whole of Melbourne nought better you'll find,
Than their Optical Goods of every kind.
Fine Eye-Glasses they've got to suit people's eyes,
And Goggles to keep out the dust and the flies.
In Spectacles truly none better could be,
They've oft caused the blind, or next to it, to see.
Whilst in Scissors and Razors their stock is immense,
Manufactured by Woolhouse—they've spared no expense.
Of Knives they have millions of every grade,
From Woolhouse they come—they're the best that are made,
For pocket or vest, large, medium or small,
Just fit for the parlour, the kitchen or hall;
Some are pretty to look at, most beautiful toys,
Nice presents to give to your girls and your boys.
Others have Seventy Blades and cause quite a start [Art.
At the triumph they show in the Cutlery
Don's carve with blunt knives which wives tempers will try,
It will pay you far better new Carvers buy.
Or if you prefer to have them well ground
Then Woolhouse will make the poor cripple quite sound.
At Woolhouse & Co.'s there grinding is done
You'll find them hard at it from rise of the sun;
And the work that you give them—They Never Delay!
Repairing they do in the very best way.
Your Walking Stick broken—neat ferrules they've got, [spot
They mend it and make it all right on the
Your old Umbrella which lets the wet thro',
They'll cover with silk and make Equal to New;
Your Razors, your Shears, your Knives may be found
So blunt that they need to be properly ground,
Then hie you at once to Woolhouse & Co.
For tradesmen are they, and their charges are low.

For Easy & Comfortable Shaving Try Woolhouse's Latest Magnetic Steel Razors.

Printing!

Promptly Executed in the . . . . .
Brightest and Most Effective Style .
At the LEADER office, Northcote .
Charges Moderate.

Carpenters.

W. Gribble,
CARPENTER and JOINER,
HOUSE REPAIRER.
231 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE
(near Methodist Church).

Saws, Scissors, Razors and Lawn Mowers Set and Sharpened.
Venetian Blinds Painted, Re-Taped and Corded.
Vienna Chairs and Furniture Repaired and Stained like New.
Picture Framing, Fly Wire Doors, and Household Requirements in Wood.

Announcements

PUBLIC NOTICE.

J. McNamara,
the old-established
PRESTON BAKER,

BEGS to announce that he has now OPENED his
NEW and UP-TO-DATE BREAD FACTORY
in Plenty Road, near corner of Bell Street, where he will be able to serve customers better not only in the matter of the "STAFF OF LIFE," but in all kinds of
PASTRY and SMALL GOODS.

A TRIAL SOLICITED.

Alfred Rose,
CARRIAGE BUILDER
and
WHEELWRIGHT,
Has commenced business in
HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE,
opposite Brickworks.

Vehicles of every description built to order, including Expresses, Abbot Buggies, Jinkers of any design, Bakers' Waggons, Grocers' Carts, and all Trade Vehicles in Latest Style.

First-class Materials and Best Workmanship at Lowest Prices.

A TRIAL SOLICITED.

ALFRED ROSE.

Your Success!
Depends upon the condition of your health and the activity of your mind. You cannot afford to DRINK any but THE BEST of BEVERAGES.

HING'S TEAS
Are ABSOLUTELY the BEST.

The Golden Canister can supply your wants and save your pocket at the same time.

ALL TEAS supplied by W. Q. HING can be relied upon to be THE BEST.

SPECIAL.
ART CHINA in endless variety and unique designs. Suitable for Wedding Presents and Christmas Boxes.
Afternoon Tea Sets from 5/4 40-piece Tea Sets, 13/11.

Wholesale & Retail Depot—
90 HIGH STREET,
NORTHCOTE SOUTH.

FOR CATCHY & UP-TO-DATE
PRINTING
SEND YOUR ORDERS TO THE
Leader Office,
NORTHCOTE.

LOON KEE,
CHINESE LAUNDRY,
216 High St., Northcote.
Washing and Laundry Orders attended to. Good Workmanship and Polish Guaranteed. Prices Moderate.
White Shirt, ironed and washed, 4d
" ironed only, 3d
Collars ironed only, 2d per doz.
Collar washed and ironed, 1d
Shirts sent for and returned.

FIRST-CLASS CHINESE LAUNDRY
AH HAY,
HIGH STREET, THORNBURY
(next Best, Draper.

Milk Suppliers.

PRESTON DAIRY,
GOWER ST., PRESTON.

M. Walsh,
Cowkeeper and Dairyman.

Cattle and Premises under inspection of the Board of Public Health.
Pure Milk Direct from the Cow to the Consumer. Strippings and One Cow's Milk a Specialty. Absolutely free from colouring matter or preservatives.
No second dealing or with other traders.
Deliveries twice daily in Northcote and surroundings.

F. W. LUPSON
NOTIFIES the public that he has purchased and taken over the
"ACME" DAIRY,
HENRY ST., NORTHCOTE,
from which customers can rely upon getting
MILK
that is
ABSOLUTELY PURE
the supply being obtained from specially selected herds in the country districts.

A card to the "Acme" Dairy, Helen St. and the carts will call.

IF your business is falling off, do not allow it to drift.
ADVERTISE and regain it.

Ask for Rosisto's "Parrot Brand" Eucalyptus Oil. SOLD everywhere.

Northcote Leader.

Kruse's Fluid Magnesia

Largest Circulation and Best Advertising Medium in the Northern Districts,

Circulating throughout Northcote, Preston, Thomastown, Epping, Whittlesea, Fairfield, Heidelberg, Clifton Hill

{Registered at the General Post Office, Melbourne, for transmission by post as a Newspaper.} SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1909. Printed and published by the proprietors, R. J. and J. S. WHALLEY, at their office, 232 High street, Northcote, in the State of Victoria. Price 1d

Produce Merchants.

J. A. BOSTOCK,
405 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.
WISHES to thank his patrons for their past favors, and also to inform them that he sells the best
BOX FIREWOOD
NEWCASTLE COAL,
TASMANIAN COAL,
at Melbourne Prices for Cash.
Cut Green Bone, Victorian Chicken Meal, Pigeon Peas, Canary Seed and Sand, also Shell Grit for Fowls.
All kinds of Produce at Lowest Rates.

A. WATSON'S
HAY & CORN STORE
Wood & Coke Yard.
is at
54 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE,
corner Robb's Parade.
Best Wheaten and Oaten Chaff direct from country | Firewood and Coal of all Descriptions
At Lowest Prices.
MIXED BLOCKS (lft.) by measurement,
2 tons 24/-
1 ton 12/6
½ ton 6/6
A CHEAP FEED, suitable for pigs or poultry, worth inspection.

Announcements

H. C. Saunders,
PRACTICAL
TAILOR,
269 High St., Northcote.
Individual tastes and requirements of customers considered.
Moderate charges, coupled with first-class workmanship and fit.
Choice Selection of Suitings Vestings and Trouserings for this season's wear.

REMEMBER
THAT N.
Hansen's Dining Rooms
359 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE,
can always be
RELIED UPON
For Good, Well-Cooked, Appetising Meals
Dinners a Speciality.
On Sale—Butter, Cheese, and general Dairy Produce and also Small Goods of the highest quality.
Good Accommodation for Boarders. Civility and Attention to all
Stabling for Horses.
N.B.—N.H. will always be pleased to see old friends from the country and new ones.

PICTURES
FRAMED
in Up to Date and Artistic Style
at
G. H. JACOBS'
255 JOHNSTON STREET, FITZROY
(5 doors east from Smith St).
and at
315 BRUNSWICK STREET.
Enlargements Framed from 2/6.
Wholesale and Retail.

GET YOUR HAIR-CUT & SHAVE
at
F. SMITH'S
Up-to-Date Hairdressing Saloon,
242 High St., Northcote.
Cleanliness, Civility, Attention.
Razor Setting a Speciality.

J. W. DURANCE,
(late of Catanach's) Watchmaker,
Fifth floor Equitable Buildings, Collins St., City,
Repairs Watches of all kinds,
Sells Reliable Levers, Gold, Silver, Gun Metal.
Private Address: 38 Salisbury grove, Northcote, where orders may be left

Undertakers

HENRY J. R. LEWIS,
UNDERTAKER
and
CERTIFICATED EMBALMER,
HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
Head Office:
Corner of Johnston & Hertford Streets,
FITZROY.
H.L. is prepared to conduct Funerals at the lowest possible rates to suit all classes.
Hearses, Mourning Coaches, and Funeral Requisites.
Coffins, all sizes, for country orders.
The Trade supplied.
Telephone 1160.

Sole Patentee of the Disinfecting Coffin for preventing contagion. Established 1866.
W. G. APPS,
UNDERTAKER,
MOOR STREET, FITZROY,
Near Labour-in-Vain Hotel,
And High and Robe Streets, St. Kilda.
Also Branch Burgundy Street, Heidelberg.
Tel. No. 60, Heidelberg Exchange.
Patent and every description of coffin at five minutes' notice.
Hearses, Coaches, &c.

A.N.A. A.W.A.
R. ROBSON,
UNDERTAKER,
CORNER of
BRUNSWICK ST. and ST. GEORGE'S ROAD (opposite Cricket Ground),
NORTH FITZROY.
Telephone 1844.
Estab. 47 years.

Established 1854.
ALFRED ALLISON,
UNDERTAKER,
Head Office—221 Victoria St., WEST MELB.
Tel. 930.
High Street, Northcote.
Queen's Parade, Clifton Hill.
Tel. 3776.
All Funeral arrangements promptly attended to.
Charges Moderate | Terms Arranged

SUCCESS
Awaits the man who keeps his business prominently before the people. The merchant who advertises and tells people who he is, what he is doing, and asks them courteously and persistently for their trade, is the one who will do the most business.

Business Notices.

R. B. LAWRENCE,
Dyer, Cleaner & Feather Dresser.
A Suit or Dress like new from 5/6.
Illustrated Price List and Address Labels sent Post Free.
MELBOURNE—4 Elizabeth Street.
50 Swanston Street.
Royal Arcade.
ALL SUBURBS.
Offices & Works
CUNNINGHAM STREET,
NORTHCOTE.

Good News for the Public of Northcote
and surrounding districts.
J. T. COLES & Co., Cash Grocers,
NEW PRICE-LIST:

Ling Fish, 5d lb. by the fish	Smoked Sardines, 3½d tin	J. T. Coles' Fig Jam, 7½d
Salt Salmon, 5d "	" Herrings, 6½d	" Raspberry, 7½d
" Herrings, 1/ & 1/3 doz.	Bloater Paste, 2½d	" Apricot, 6½d
Red Salmon, 4½d, 5d, 7½d tin	Cove Oysters, 4½d tin	" Plum, 6d
Morton's Herrings, 3½d, 5d	Flake Rice, 4d	" B. Currant, 7d
Herrings in sauce, 4½d, 6½d	Maizo Flakes, 5d	Red Ochre, 3d pkt.
Kippered Herrings, 4½d, 6½d	Force, 7½d	Headley's Sauce, 5d
Small Sardines, 2½d, 3½d tin	McAlpine's S.R. Flour, 4d	First Pick Sauce, 5d
Large " 4½d	Do., 7lb. bags, 1/1	Dyason's Sauce, 5d
Sardines in sauce, 3d	Best Bread, 5d large loaf	Large Sauce, 6d

BRANCHES at NORTHCOTE, THORNBURY, and PRESTON.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!
SEND YOUR LINEN TO THE
NORTHCOTE LAUNDRY
HIGH STREET (nearly opposite London Bank).
A VICTORIA HIGH-BOARD IRONING MACHINE USED,
which turns out
Shirts and Collars Equal to New
and Saves Half the Wear and Tear.
Shirts, Washed and Ironed — 4d | Collars, Washed and Ironed — 1d
" Ironed only — 3d | " Ironed only — ½d
All Classes of Washing and Ironing done, also MANGLING.
Orders Called for and Delivered. A Trial Solicited.
MRS. FRAWLEY, Proprietress.

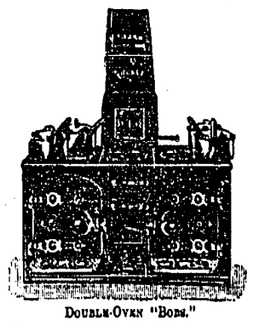
Smith's Sons
TRADE MARK REGD. GOLD MEDALISTS
HAM & BACON CURERS AND Small Goods Manufacturers.
'Phone 1160. NORTHCOTE, Vic.
Champion and First Prize Winners FOR HAMS and BACON AT THE Royal Agricultural Show, MELBOURNE.
Our High-Class Goods
Are Noted Throughout the Commonwealth for their
Savory, Delicious, & Appetising Quality
And are stocked by All Grocers and Dairy Produce Merchants.
Our FRITZ and FRANKFORTS are Just the Thing for the Tea & Breakfast Table.
All Goods Manufactured under the Supervision of the Central Board of Health.
FACTORY AND OFFICE: "MERRIBANK," NORTHCOTE.

T. KERR,
PASTRYCOOK and CONFECTIONER,
76 and 328 Smith Street,
COLLINGWOOD.

Wedding and Christmas Cakes a Speciality.
Wedding Cakes forwarded to all parts of the State.
REFRESHMENT ROOMS.
Tea and Coffee always ready.

FREE BOOKS!
Over 3000 to select from, including all classes of Literature and Reference Works.
NORTHCOTE PUBLIC LIBRARY,
Town Hall.
Open Every Evening and also on Monday and Friday Afternoons.
Illustrated Australian, English and American Magazines.
Cosy and well-furnished Reading Room.
R. J. WHALLEY, Hon. Sec.

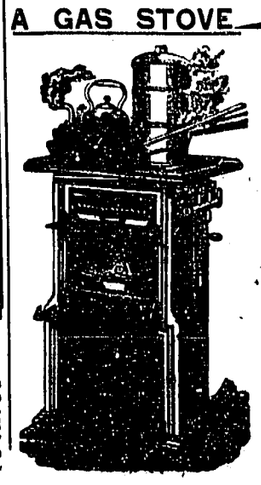
TO Have the Least Possible Expense and the Greatest Comfort in Cooking, use a
"BOBS"
(burns coal or wood)
Made in three sizes—No. 1, 2ft. wide
No. 2, 2ft. 3in. wide
No. 3, 3 ft. wide
Plate Warmers and Boilers can be fitted to either side.
Our many customers testify that "BOBS" is the most up-to-date FUEL SAVER.



DOUBLE-OVEN "BOBS."

Wallis Bros. & Co.
IRONFOUNDERS and STOVE MANUFACTURERS,
Cramer Street, Preston.
Showroom—419 Bourke Street, Melbourne (opposite Kirk's Bazaar.)
Sole Manufacturers of the Boadle Patent Cast Iron Revolving Washing Copper Frames, suitable for Dairymen, Butchers, and ordinary household use.
Very Durable and Economical. Write for Catalogues.

For the Proper Equipment of a Modern Home,
A GAS STOVE
Is an Absolute Essential.



A GAS STOVE ensures
Excellence in Cookery
at the least possible trouble and expense, also freedom from Soot, Smoke, and Ashes, thereby resulting at all times in a delightfully CLEAN and COOL KITCHEN.
Needs minimum attention. Easily managed, and is a veritable boon to the busy housewife.
Can be obtained on rental from 1/6 per month, or on hire purchase terms. Small deposit and 2/6 per month.
Metropolitan Gas Company,
186 Flinders St., Melbourne.
Tel. Nos. 339, 359, 3743, 7213.

PRESTON SHIRE COUNCIL.

MONDAY, MARCH 22ND.

Present:—Crs. Allchin (president), Paterson, Howse, Crispe, Robertson, Howe, Warr, Stanlake, and Wilkinson.

WILD STREET RIGHT OF WAY.

J. A. B. Freeman, L. Jones, J. F. W. Nankervis, A. C. Strongman, L. W. Schumacher, S. Meeke, and Sarah A. Mooney, owners of land abutting on right-of-way south of Wild street wrote agreeing to make the right of-way to the satisfaction of the engineer, and they would request the council's permission to begin the work forthwith.

Cr. Crispe moved and Cr. Wilkinson seconded—That the writers be empowered to have the work done under the supervision of the engineer and that they pay the engineer 5 per cent on the cost of the work for his services in preparing plans, supervision, &c. —Carried.

P.P.S. AND PARK.

W. H. Smith, secretary Preston Football Club wrote submitting the dates on which they would like the use of the park during the coming season.—Received.

WANTS ASPHALT FULL WIDTH.

C. A. Stephenson wrote asking that the footpath be asphalted the full width in front of his premises, opposite shire-hall, High street.—Referred to public works committee on the motion of Crs. Warr and Paterson.

CROSSING WANTED.

William Horwood wrote applying for a crossing to his premises in Gower street.—Granted, on usual conditions, on the motion of Crs. Wilkinson and Howse.

MILK AND TYPHOID.

W. G. Swift, town clerk, Northcote, wrote forwarding report of inspector to the effect that the source of the milk supply in connection with a typhoid case was Preston. —Referred to inspector, on the motion of Crs. Crispe and Warr.

CLAIM FOR DRAIN CONSTRUCTION.

The Northcote Town Council wrote forwarding account for £360, being the amount mutually agreed upon that the Shire of Preston should pay towards the drainage works extending from Dundas street to High and Raleigh streets.—Referred to finance committee, on the motion of Crs. Crispe and Howe.

EXTENSION OF TANNERY PREMISES.

W. Braithwaite wrote applying to make the following additions to his tannery:—Additional tan pits covering a space of about 38 feet by 44 feet; also to erect a second storey on the single storey workshops situated on the north side of his works, with additions to engine-house.

Application granted, on the motion of Crs. Crispe and Howe.

W. Braithwaite wrote giving reasons why he considered the making of a lane through his property from the lane between William and West street to William street was unnecessary. If the council insisted on making these unnecessary rights-of-way it simply penalises not only the adjacent owners, but also lays an unnecessary cost of about £100 on all ratepayers interested in the lanes which they intersect, the cost of which has to be borne *pro rata* by all land abutting on the two lanes, besides incurring a cost to the council of cleaning the lane for all time.

Referred to the committee of the whole, on the motion of Crs. Howse and Crispe.

The Metropolitan Board of Works wrote stating that they were unable to make the extension of the water in Dundas street as requested.

Cr. Crispe said the extension asked for—down nearly as far as the creek—would cost nearly £900, which was an expenditure out of the question. He might say, however, that the board had under consideration an extension of 6 or 7 chains, which would take in the properties now in course of erection.

Cr. Howse said he thought this would meet requirements.

SOLICITOR'S CURIOUS QUERY.

Joseph Woolf, solicitor, wrote asking if the council could give him any information with a view of ascertaining the average price of sheep skins for the last 5 years, or as to the number of sheep and lambs slaughtered in the municipality.

Cr. Paterson—I think he might be referred to the Government Statist.

Cr. Robertson moved that the writer be informed that the council has no information on the subject.—Carried.

A PROMPT PAYMENT.

W. H. Miller, Flinders lane, wrote forwarding cheque for £8 2s 9d towards the construction of Station street.—Received.

THE REPAIRS TO BELL STREET BRIDGE.

The Shire of Heidelberg wrote re matter of repairing Bell Street bridge over Darebin Creek, stating that £100 had been allotted by the Government towards carrying out the work, conditionally upon Preston and Heidelberg spending an additional £200. They (Heidelberg) were prepared to pay their proportion, and would be glad if Preston would instruct their engineer to prepare the necessary plans and specifications.

The Department Public Works wrote stating that the plans for the above work must be submitted to them prior to tenders being called, and that the grant would lapse on 31st July, 1909, and that the work must be completed by 30th June.

The secretary said he had already reminded the council of the understanding that it was the Heidelberg engineer who should prepare the plans.

Cr. Crispe said that so far as he remembered this was correct, and he moved that a letter be sent to the Heidelberg council notifying that their engineer has all the particulars for the making of the plans and requesting that same be prepared and tenders called as soon as possible.

Cr. Howse seconded the motion, stating it might be added that their (Preston's) engineer had as much as he could do with new works for the present.

LOCAL LABOUR SUPPLY.

From Public Works Department asking if any outside labour would be necessary to carry out the work consequent upon the extra Government grant for the maintenance of main roads, also to give them an idea of the condition of the local labour market generally.—Referred to the committee of the whole, on the motion of Crs. Howe and Crispe.

EQUIVALENT FOR LICENSES.

The Chief Secretary's office wrote notifying that the council would this year receive £116 as equivalent for licenses.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

Cr. Crispe (chairman) submitted the report, recommending—

1. That accounts amounting to £237 4s 11d be passed for payment.—Adopted.

2. Tenders for supply of maintenance metal for section 1 High street, section 2 Epping road, and section 2 Plenty road.—That the tenders be not accepted, but the contracts re-advertised in the daily press.

Asked the reason for such a recommendation, Cr. Crispe said the prices tendered showed a considerable increase on those of last year, and the committee thought the competition was not as it should be.

Clause adopted.

3. Tenders for Contract No. 13/09, supply of 250 cubic yards of maintenance metal for section 1, Plenty road.—That the tender of W. Portesous at the bulked sum of £93 15s be accepted.—Adopted.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Cr. Warr (chairman) submitted the report, recommending—

1. That accounts amounting to £36 2s 1d be passed for payment.—Adopted.

HALL COMMITTEE.

Cr. Howe (chairman) submitted the report, recommending—

1. Letter from Preston District Cycling Club re hire of shire-hall.—That the council will have regard to the dates on which the club may require the hall, but they cannot take any responsibility unless the rent be paid on engaging same.—Adopted.

PARKS COMMITTEE.

Cr. Wilkinson (chairman) submitted the report, recommending—

1. Letter from Preston Football Club re use of park.—That the Preston Football Club be allowed the use of the ground on the same terms as last year, viz., 7s 6d for each match when a charge for admission is made and they deposit the sum of £3 as a guarantee against damages to the park, and they be asked to furnish the dates for the matches.—Adopted.

2. Letter from Preston District Football Club re use of park.—That the application of the club be granted, except when required by the council.—Adopted.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

Cr. Robertson (chairman) submitted the report, recommending—

1. Letter from M. and M. Board of Works re laying main in Bruce street.—That Mr. Keele and Mr. White be asked if they will guarantee the interest on the cost of laying the main in Bruce street.—Adopted.

Cr. Howe said he had had an interview with Mr. Keele that day and he said they were both quite ready to enter into a guarantee.

2. Letter from Board of Health re disinfection of hotel.—That the inspector take necessary steps to have the premises disinfected.—Adopted.

3. Letter from Board of Health re case of H. Gay.—Held over.

4. Letter from H. Olney re subdivision of Trudgeon Estate.—That the plan of subdivision be approved and certificate given at once.—Adopted.

5. Letters from Board of Health in reference to branding pigs cheeks and application of Amended Meat Supervision Act to bacon, &c.—That the letters be received and noted. Adopted.

6. Letter from J. C. Hutton, Ltd., asking that their factory in Oakover road be proclaimed in the Meat Area.—That the request of J. C. Hutton, Ltd., be informed that the amount charged for branding being only slightly more than the cost to the council they cannot see their way to refund anything, and that the matter of further branding fees will receive the future attention of the council.—Adopted.

8. Letter from London Bank of Australia, Ltd., in reference to the diversion of water on to their property in Oakover road.—That the London Bank be notified that the council has forwarded a copy of their letter to the Railway Department.—Adopted.

9. Alteration of the name of Station street (south) to Clinch avenue.—That the owners of the properties in the street be asked to consent to the alteration of the name of the street to Clinch avenue.

Cr. Robertson explained that there were two Station streets, and besides doing away with the confusion resulting therefrom, the change proposed would perpetuate for ever the name of one of the old pioneers who had done much for the place in days gone by.

The clause was adopted.

10. Consideration of applications for the position of lamplighter, etc.—That the secretary be authorised and instructed to open and tabulate all applications for lamplighter, etc., and the meeting of the committee for dealing with same be held on Tuesday, 23rd inst., at 7 o'clock p.m.—Adopted.

11. That the Railway Department be asked if they are willing to sell sufficient land for straightening Station street extension.—Adopted.

ORDINARY BUSINESS.

Cr. Paterson moved that the engineer be instructed to bring up a report to the committee of the whole on the condition of Dundas street at the termination of the Northcote stormwater drain. No proper provision having been made to conduct the water in to the drain the road was a perfect quagmire.

Cr. Howse seconded. Carried.

Cr. Wilkinson called attention to the condition of the footpath in front of Mr. McLean's produce store, Plenty road, stating it was badly in need of repair.—Referred to the engineer.

Cr. Wilkinson moved that steps be taken to have the wooden drain near Jeffrey's, High street seen to. Cr. Stanlake seconded. Carried.

Cr. Robertson said he would like to draw attention to the fact that the pathways in High street north were being extensively used for vehicular traffic. He thought they might well imitate the Epping council and erect posts on the footpath, which seemed to have a very desirable effect. The roadway in this neighborhood was a scandal to their own and the laughing-stock of other shires.

Cr. Wilkinson—Something more than a laughing stock.

Cr. Robertson moved that both matters be referred to the works committee. Carried.

Cr. Wilkinson moved that owners of hedges overhanging the footpaths in High, Henry, Wild and other streets be served with notices to have them cut.—Carried.

Cr. Howse said Mr. F. Kupsch was very anxious to have a 12ft length of 5 pitcher channelling put down at his entrance, as such would be a great convenience. The cost of the work could come out of the cast riding apportionment.

Cr. Paterson while approving of the work being done out of general revenue did not believe in it coming out of their apportionment.

Other councillors suggested that if Mr. Kupsch wanted a crossing he ought to apply for it in the usual way.

The president reported having attended conference re improvement of Merri Creek. The Minister promised something, but that something was rather vague. He would, however, do his best.

THE BYE LAWS.

Cr. Robertson gave the necessary notice of motion in connection with the adoption of the new bye laws as revised and added to by the council and their solicitors. Cr. Robertson remarked that seeing this work had been in hand for some years, probably before the president had thought of entering the council, it was good at last to see finality in sight.

"EXILED TO AUSTRALIA."

A correspondent in America, Geo. S. Hope, forwards the following:—

To the Editor of *The Over-Seas Daily Mail*.

Sir,—I should like to draw the attention of your readers in Australia to the enclosed cutting from the *Los Angeles Times* of December 26.

No doubt the United States finds it much cheaper to pay a convict's passage money than to keep him in prison for ten years. But why should Australia be made the dumping-ground for the goal-birds of California?

If this is to be one of the results of the late visit of the American fleet, surely the Australian Government ought to take some steps to put a stop to it at once.—Yours faithfully,

ANGLO-AUSTRALIAN.

Los Angeles, Cal., U.S.A.

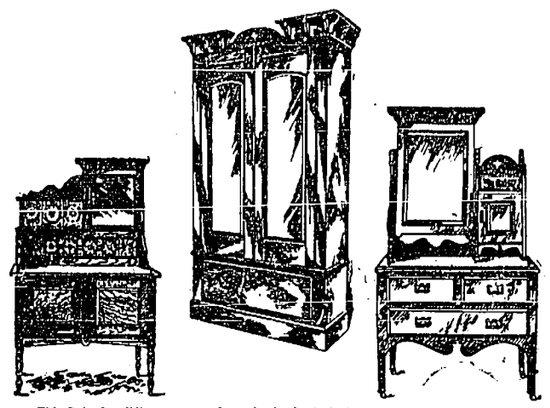
Instead of granting a parole to John Griffin, a young man from Monterey, who fell among evil associates in this city (San Francisco) and was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment for burglary, Judge Cook to-day exiled him to Australia for half that length of time. Griffin wanted to go to St. Louis, where he said he had friends, but the judge, who was favorably impressed with the young fellow, told him he preferred to send him where he would be entirely removed from his former associates.

Our step won't take you very far—
You've got to keep on walking;
One word won't tell folks what you are—
You've got to keep on talking;
One inch won't make you very tall,
You've got to keep on growing;
One little "ad." won't do it all—
You've got to keep 'em going.

Business Notices.

SPECIAL BEDROOM SUITE

SPECIAL VALUE



SPECIAL PRICE

This Suite is solidly constructed, perfectly finished throughout, in Imit. Walnut or Light wood, consisting of 4ft. Wardrobe with 2 bevelled plate glass doors & large drawer, 3ft. 6in. Toilet Table with massive bevelled plate mirror, cupboard with glass door and three large drawers; 3ft. 6in. washstand, marble top and tile back, with bevelled plate mirror and shelf.
We supply this Suite complete or in separate pieces.
SPECIAL PRICE for ONE MONTH ONLY, £12.
CLAUSCEN & CO.
194-6 Bourke St., Melbourne.

MOA CYCLES
For price, quality, and neatness in design we defy competition.
All joints are double-butted in the No. 1 as in the Moa Special.
We give a ten years' guarantee to replace any part of a Moa Cycle frame or forks found defective or if broken.
No. 1, £8 10/-. No. 2, £10 10/-. All Accessories Free.
The Moa Special, £14 10/. We ask you to compare this model with any make of cycle in Victoria, and will refund money if better value can be obtained.
B.S.A. Cycles, £12 10/.
Large stock of Covers and Tubes, all makes, at Lowest Prices. Repairs to any make of cycle.
Merson's, 218 High St., Northcote.

L. G. GODLEY,
UPHOLSTERER,
531 HIGH ST., THORNBURY.
HAVING purchased the stock of Mr. S. DEVENPORT,
Painter, of 563 High St., Thornbury
I am prepared to sell Oils, Paints, Varnish, White Lead, Methylated Spirits, Turps, Benzine, &c., at lowest market prices.
GLASS CUT TO SIZE.

Estate Agents

TOWN HALL ESTATE AGENCY.
W. Freebairn & Co.
(SWORN VALUERS),
HOUSE & LAND
Agents,
HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
Houses for Sale—small deposit; balance as rent.
Rents Collected. Insurances Effected.
Loans Negotiated.
Commissions executed.
Valuations made. Auction Sales arranged.
Agents for the Manchester Fire Assurance

Membrey & Deane
(J. G. MEMBREY—J. V. DEANE),
Estate, Financial & Insurance Agents,
Accountants, &c.,
HAVE much pleasure in informing the general public they have commenced business at York Buildings, 43 Queen St., Melbourne.
Mr Membrey has had a lengthened experience as a municipal valuer and is also a sworn valuer under the Transfer of Land Act.
Mr. Deane has had over 17 years' experience with two leading city firms of solicitors.
Fire and Life Insurance a speciality.
Large and small sums of trust monies to lend. Loans negotiated on usual terms.
All business placed in the hands of the above firm will receive prompt attention.

Nurse Phillips,
CERTIFICATED MIDWIFE,
HAS Vacancies for Ladies during Accouchment. Fees, £3 3/. Every home comfort, doctor if required. Patients admitted any hour.
Outdoor cases attended. Fee, £1.
"St. Hellers,"
Merri St., Northcote (near P.O.)

NURSE ROKEHERST ROBERTS,
Certificates Melbourne and Women's Hospitals. R.V.T.N.A.
"Waverley," 2 ROSSMOYNE STREET, NORTHCOTE.
Correspondence invited.

Dentists.

DENTISTRY.
T. WEBSTER,
L.D.S. (Licentiate of Dental Surgery) M.A.C.D.
308 Queen's Parade, CLIFTON HILL.

A. SANGUINETTI,
THE OLDEST-ESTABLISHED
HOUSE DECORATOR & PAINTER
IN THE DISTRICT.
Estimates Given for all kinds of House Repairs.
ON SALE—
Paperhangings
from 2½d per roll.
Dry Colors from 2d lb., 7 lbs. for 1/-.
Artists' Materials, Alabastine, Leads, Oils, Stainers' Varnishes, Plain & Fancy Glass, &c
Special Concessions to the Trade.
Muranese Glass cut to Size from 10d per foot.
Address: 347 High Street, Northcote
Close to Tramway Penny Section).

To know a good job, have a good job done by
D. B. MASSON,
DECORATOR
Paperhanger, Grainer, Glazier, Signwriter.
IF you have not time to call on me let me call on you about those renovations when you can have the benefit of my London and Edinburgh experience.
Don't wait to see how so and so have their house done. Come right away and I will show you the latest designs and methods.
Country orders have our special attention and work carried through without delay or inconvenience to occupants.
Only respectable, reliable TRADESMEN employed.
212 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.

FARMERS AND GRAZIERS
Of Preston & Epping shires.
PLEASE NOTE!
—THAT—
T. HERLEY & CO.,
Woolscourers, &c.,
Oakover Rd., South Preston,
ARE CASH BUYERS OF
WOOL AND SKINS.
Highest Price Paid. No Commissions Charged.
Write or Call if you have Anything to Sell—*it will pay you.*
T HERLEY & CO., South Preston.

IF YOUR WATCH DOES NOT KEEP TIME
TAKE IT TO
GEO. H. ARMFIELD,
123 SMITH STREET, COLLINGWOOD
(next to Foy & Gibson's).
Satisfaction Guaranteed.
SPECTACLES to SUIT ALL SIGHTS.

Established 20 years.
W. FIRTH
GENERAL DRAPER,
344 SMITH STREET,
COLLINGWOOD
(Below Johnston St).

Northcote (Free & Circulating) LIBRARY
Open Every Night from 7 till 10; also on Monday and Friday afternoons from 2 till 4.
SPLENDID COLLECTION of BOOKS.
Subscription Fee of 2s 6d per quarter enables the Reader to take books home.
R. J. WHALLEY, Hon. Sec

Tailors

INCE BROS.,
TAILORS & OUTFITTERS.
NEW SPRING GOODS.
NEW SPRING GOODS.
NEW SPRING GOODS.
Suits from £3 3/-; Trousers from 15/6.
If we do not please you, tell us; if we do please you, tell others.
174 SWANSTON ST., MELBOURNE.

IF YOU are are looking for a really good stylish Suit, write at once to
"OUR TAILORS,"
VEREY & CROSS,
242 SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD,
Where you get a fashionably-cut and serviceable Suit at bed-rock prices. Every article made on the premises by experienced workmen and under personal supervision.
Country orders attended to with utmost despatch.
Don't forget the only address—
"Our Tailors,"
VEREY & CROSS,
242 SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD.

Tailor & Mercer,
PLENTY RD. & GARNET STS.,
SOUTH PRESTON.
Arch. Wilkinson,
Ladies' & Gentlemen's Tailor.
New Goods for the Spring Season
Just Arrived.
STRAW HATS a Speciality.
Latest Shades and Shapes in Soft & Hard Felt Hats.
A Large Assortment of Shirts, Ties, and Hosiery of every description.
Have a Look at our Window Display.
LADIES' COSTUMES A SPECIAL STUDY.

J. G. Alston,
PRACTICAL TAILOR,
324 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE
(late Smith St. and City.)
Fit and Style Guaranteed.
Prices to Suit all Pockets. Suits from 35/-
Trousers, 10/6 upwards.
TRIAL SOLICITED.

A. RAYMOND,
Practical
TAILOR and MERCER,
HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE,
opposite Town Hall,
HAS a Splendid Variety of NEW GOODS at PRICES to SUIT ALL CUSTOMERS.
A PERFECT FIT is GUARANTEED and the STYLE is UP-TO-DATE.

Announcements

W. T. ROWE
(Over 17 years with F. Yann, also large English experience),
COACHBUILDER, WHEELWRIGHT, and GENERAL BLACKSMITH,
Corner of HIGH and DUNDAS STS., UPPER NORTHCOTE
(opposite Tram Terminus, Preston).
Buggies, Jinkers, Waggons, Drays, and Carts of every description built on the most reasonable terms.
Repairs Promptly Executed.
Vehicles Bought, Sold, and Exchanged.
Horses Carefully Shod, called for and and Returned.
Best Materials Used. All Work Guaranteed.

FARMERS!
Take your Hay to
C. Wilkinson's
NEW
Chaffcutting Works,
HIGH STREET, PRESTON
(near Shire Hall).
Having had large experience C.W. is confident of being able to give all who entrust him with their cutting the greatest satisfaction.
CHARGES MODERATE.
The trade supplied with chaff, also customers in lots of not less than half-ton.

Plumbers.

PUBLIC NOTICE.
J. DENYER,
LICENSED PLUMBER & GASFITTER, TINSMITH & IRONWORKER,
Next Wesleyan Schoolroom,
232 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE
Water Meters Fixed and Repaired.
Gas and Water Laid On
Estimates Given for General Repairs.

To Landlords, Householders and Builders.
Edwards & Howard,
Licensed
PLUMBERS, GASFITTERS,
Mechanical and Electric Bell Hangers, Steam, Hot, and Cold Water Engineers and Sanitary Plumbers.
Guarantee All Work for Twelve Months.
Gas & Water laid on. Estimates submitted Work promptly executed.
Corner High and Clarke Streets, NORTHCOTE.

Does Your
WATER-PIPE LEAK
GAS-PIPE LEAK
ROOF LEAK
S. McDOUGALL,
LICENSED PLUMBER,
Next Railway,
NORMANBY AVENUE,
NORTHCOTE,
WILL SET MATTERS RIGHT—
Promptly—Reliably—Cheaply.
Water Meters Fixed. Gas & Water laid on

For Sale.

FIRST-CLASS Garden Soil (rich, black loam) for Sale.—J. Milot, Beaver's rd, Northcote.

Church Notices

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, NORTHCOTE.

Sunday Services:
Morning, Rev. C. H. BARNES.
Evening, Rev. A. C. KELLAWAY.

HOLY TRINITY, THORNBURY.

Sunday Services:
Matins, 11 a.m.
Evensong, 7 p.m.

INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, TOWN HALL, NORTHCOTE

Rev. HECTOR FERGUSON, Minister.

Morning, Special Subject.
Evening, "Life in the Summer Land."
Sunday School at 3.

NORTHCOTE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (JAMES ST.)

S.S. ANNIVERSARY.
Morning at 11 and afternoon at 3, Rev. S. McGOWAN.
Evening at 7, Rev. J. BARNABY.
For further particulars see special advt.

NORTHCOTE METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday Services:
Morning, Mr. GEO. HUNTER.
Evening, Rev. J. A. JEFFREYS.
Strangers warmly welcomed.

NORTHCOTE BAPTIST CHURCH, Kimberley Hall, Darebin Road.

Rev. T. NICHOLS (Pastor), morning and evening.
All welcome.

PRINCE OF WALES PARK METHODIST CHURCH.

[illegible] ALDAY.
[illegible] THORPE.
All Seats Free. Strangers welcomed.

PRESTON CHURCH OF CHRIST, Bradford Hall, High St.

Preacher, Mr. F. J. GOODWIN.
Ladies invited Wednesdays at 2.30 p.m.
Try and come.
All welcome. No collection.

SOUTH PRESTON METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday Services:
Morning, Rev. J. TRATHAN.
3 p.m., Rev. C. C. DUGAN.
Evening, Rev. C. DUGAN.
Bright singing. All welcome.

SALVATION ARMY, MITCHELL ST., NORTHCOTE.

Sunday, 28th March.
Meetings at 7 and 11 a.m., 3 and 7 p.m.
All are welcome.

Educational.

MISS EVELINE ROBERTS
Receives and Visits Pupils for
ELOCUTION.
(Registered by the Teachers and Schools Registration Board.)
CLASSES held at Bradford Hall, Preston, Guild Hall, Thornbury, Rechabite Hall, Yarraville.
Terms at Gladstone Street, Northcote.

MISS MAY WILKINSON,
TEACHER of ELOCUTION,
Receives Pupils at "Urangeline," High Street, Northcote.
Terms on application.

Westleigh College (1886).
MICHAEL ST., NORTH FITZROY, and HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
Principals: MISSES WESTGARTH, assisted by University Staff (visiting and Resident).
KINDERGARTEN TO JUNIOR PUBLIC.
CLASSES for Music, Singing, Drawing, Painting, Elocution, Gymnastics, Dancing.
Boarders' residence, High St., Northcote close to tram and train (Heidelberg line).
Large grounds, tennis court, poultry, cow.
TERMS: Day Pupils, 15/- to 3 guineas; Boarders, 10 to 15 guineas. All terms equal length. Pupils entering during term charged accordingly.
Dressmaking Class, Wednesday Afternoon; 12 lessons 1 guinea.

KING'S COLLEGE,
CLIFTON HILL (near Northcote Bridge).
5 minutes from Heidelberg and Clifton Hill Trains, also Northcote Trams.
Principal: G. COCHRANE, B.A., T.C.D., &c.
Vice-Principal: T. COCHRANE (Melb. Univ.),
Assisted by Visiting Staff.
20 acre Play Ground. Gymnasium.
Fees: 1½ to 3½ Guineas.

Austral Business & Coaching College
HAS REMOVED to 105 LITTLE COLLINS STREET (back of George's).
Rooms built specially to comply with requirements of BOARD OF HEALTH.
SPLENDID LIGHT & VENTILATION.
5 Scholarships. 5
See Daily Papers.
CLASSES for Public Service and Telegraph Messengers Right through the vacation.
Telegraph Messengers, £1 1s till Exam.
Ideal Physical Conditions
Trained Teachers.
Call and see the Principal—
F. THOMAS, B.A.

MISS FLORENCE E. HODGES,
TEACHER of DRAWING and PAINTING
(late Pupil Douglas Richardson, Collins St.)
Terms, 1 Jessie St., South Northcote.

MISS C. GLADSTONE (Gold Medallist),
CERTIFICATED TEACHER of PAINTING AND DRAWING,
Desires to intimate that Classes are being formed for Painting (in Oils and Water Colors) and Drawing.
Studio: Corner Rowe and Delbridge Sts., North Fitzroy.
Private address: Rushall Crescent, Nth. Fitzroy.
Evening Classes for Painting and Drawing are held.
Terms on application.

Papua is pictured by many folk as a scorching land of sun and malaria. Staniforth Smith, the ex Federal Senator, who is now Administrator, is just back from a tramp of 180 miles north east from Port Moresby, and tells a shivering story of a night spent at 8000 feet elevation in two thick suits, and wrapped in two woolly blankets. When the bushmen saw Staniford Smith on horseback they took him for a Centaur, and scooted!

Hullo! Hullo! What's This?

A Dreadnought for Northcote

No, No, but

SINCLAIR, THE PEOPLE'S BUTCHER,

Is GIVING AWAY to the Public THE PRICE OF ONE in PRIME MEAT for next to nothing, some actually below cost. Just Look for yourself.

Mutton 1d! Mutton 1d! Mutton 1d!
Never heard of before in the history of Northcote.

Lovely Sides of Mutton from 2d lb.
No better for the money.

500 Legs of Mutton from 3d.
Quality undeniable.

500 Sides of Lamb from 2/6.
Don't Pay More—Why should you!

500 Loins of Mutton from 2d lb.
Full Weight Guaranteed.

Sirloins Beef, 4½d.
Don't be misled. We SELL you SIRLOIN and GIVE it to You.

[illegible] having made arrangements with the Largest Manufacturers [illegible] Small Goods in the Commonwealth for a direct supply [illegible] that they will be well catered for in this line.
FRANKFORTS, 6d string of six—9d anywhere else.
SAVELOYS, 4 for 3d—absolutely the best that's made.
PORK FRITZ, 8d lb.—something out of the ordinary.
SAUSAGES! SAUSAGES! SAUSAGES! 3d lb., or 5lbs. for 1/-
Try our Famed EPPING SAUSAGES, only 6d lb, usually sold at 8d.
Sinclair's Sausages are a treat and impossible to beat.
And with civility and attention you are always sure to meet.

Mrs. Holland,
118-120-122
SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD.
Special Bargains in Millinery.
GREAT REDUCTIONS.
Trimmed Hats from 4/11.

THE PRESTON PHARMACY.
W. G. FEGENT
(late with Ford & Co., Toorak),
Successor to J. SLADE,
Pharmaceutical & Dispensing Chemist
257 HIGH STREET, PRESTON.
The Dispensing of Physicians' Prescriptions is a special branch of the Pharmacy. The greatest care is taken in the selection and testing of drugs. All dispensing is checked to ensure accuracy.
NOTE.
Records kept of all prescriptions dispensed since the establishment of the business in 1888.
HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES.

BOOTS MADE FOR YOU!
We Make Direct for the People.
Our Factory is manned with first-class labor and we use only good solid leather, consequently we can give to our customers a boot better in quality and lower in price than can be got elsewhere.
Our Patent Unbreakable Back Boot
(made only by us)
SPEAKS FOR ITSELF BY THE THOUSANDS WE SELL.
Our Prices for them now are:

Men's Box Derby Bals., 8/11	Boys' Box, strong wear, 10 to 13, 4/11
Men's knock-about Bals., 8/6	Youths' strong leather, 1 to 5, 4/11
Youths' Box, strong wear, 1 to 5, 6/6	Boys' strong leather, 10 to 13, 4/6

Many splendid-value lines in ordinary backs also.
All Lines to Measure at Retail Price. Boots sent to all parts of the country.
Bring your old boots to be made new. Repairs a leading factor
DIMMICK, Manufacturer & Retailer
245 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.

T. E.
REDMOND,
Ironmonger, Crockery, Oil & Color Merchant,
410 High St., Northcote
Hanging Meat Safes.
Square and round.
One Quality—THE BEST.
4/6, 5/6, 6/9, 7/11, 9/6, 9/11 and 10/11.
Kerosene Stoves, 3/6, 4/11, 15/, 24/, &c.
Water Cans—Green, 1/, 1/4, 1/6, 1/11, 2/6, and 2/9.
Water Cans—Galvanised, 1/11, 2/3, 2/11, 3/3, 3/6, 4/11, &c.
Wire Window Screens, fit any window, 2/11.
Best Wire Doors, 8/11 and 10/11.
Fly Wire, Green and Galvanised, cheap.
½ inch Hose, 6d per foot.
Telephone 312 (Brunswick).

Every Business Man
Who has not a Standing Advertisement in this Paper is not giving his Business a fair chance.

Bereavement Notices.

MRS. BASTINGS and Family thank kind friends for letters, telegrams, cards, and personal expressions of sympathy during their bereavement.
"Canonbury," High Street, Northcote.

Law.

MADDOCK, JAMIESON AND LONIE,
SOLICITORS AND CONVEYANCERS.
Market Buildings 445 Collins Street
MELBOURNE.

MADDEN, DRAKE & CANDY
SOLICITORS, PROCTORS, CONVEYANCERS,
436 COLLINS ST., MELBOURNE (next to Scott's Hotel).
Tel. 196.
Mr. R. Candy's private address—
88 Cunningham Street, Northcote.

HOME AND WILKINSON,
SOLICITORS, CONVEYANCERS, &c.,
Commercial Union Chambers, 413 Collins Street, Melbourne.
Tel. 853.
W. J. HOME, Commissioner for Victoria.
A. S. WILKINSON. Private address—"Fyllingdales," King William St., Preston
LOCAL OFFICE: McGeorge's Agency, High St., where Mr. Wilkinson will attend Tuesdays and Fridays from 8.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.

ROBERT G. BALL
(HENDERSON & BALL),
SOLICITORS, &c.,
Molesworth Chambers,
450 LITTLE COLLINS STREET (Chancery Lane), MELBOURNE.
Private Residence—
"Landwor," Heidelberg Road, near Studley Road, Ivanhoe.
Tel. 973, City.

AMERICAN DENTISTRY.
MR. ALEX. G. DE LACY, R.D.S.,
Dentist,
Desires to inform the Residents of Northcote that he may be consulted at his private residence—
"TORONTO," MARTIN ST., NORTHCOTE.
Hours—8 a.m. to 9 a.m.
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Or by special appointment.
The Latest High-Class System of Dentistry at Lowest Fees.
Artificial Teeth, Upper or Lower Set, from £2 10/.
Painless Extraction of Teeth, 2/6.
City Address—
153 ELIZABETH ST.,
Between Bourke and Little Collins Streets, MELBOURNE.

Accountancy.

ERNEST J. NEILSON,
ACCOUNTANT, BOOK KEEPER, and AUDITOR.
Books opened and kept (single and double entry).
Balance Sheets prepared.
Accounts Adjusted.
Income Tax Schedules Compiled.
Fifteen years' experience Commercial and Banking Methods.
Terms Arranged.
14 Lawry St., Northcote.

Music.

NORTHCOTE SCHOOL OF MUSIC.
MRS. LEONARD BAKER and MISS HILDA BAKER,
OPPOSITE TOWN HALL, NORTHCOTE.
During 1908 fourteen pupils entered for examinations in four different grades, and all passed, two with honours.
Over 100 prizes in competitions.
Students prepared for examinations, &c.
Theory Class, Saturday, 6 to 7.
Terms on application.

MR. SIDNEY R. COLE, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., London;
10 years Professor and Examiner at the London Academy of Music; Licentiate, Royal Academy of Music London (Singing); Licentiate, Royal Academy of Music, London (Pianoforte); Associate, Royal College of Music, London (Pianoforte);
PROFESSOR of VOICE PRODUCTION, SINGING and PIANOFORTE.
Mr. Cole is the only musician in Australia holding the Specialist (L.R.A.M.) Diploma in Two Subjects, from the Royal Academy of Music, London.
Lessons given at the residence of Mr. E. Lees, "Talgarno," Clarke St., Northcote, and at Allan's, Collins St.

L. BRENNECKE
(Royal Cons., Cologne & Berlin),
VIOLIN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONY, and COUNTERPOINT.
1 PLOW ST. (opp. Thornbury Railway Station).

MISS QUEENIE PARKER A.L.C.M.,
Receives and Visits Pupils for the PIANOFORTE.
Pupils prepared for London College, Conservatorium, &c., Exams.
"Norman," Waterloo Road, Northcote.

MISS M. V. MAGUIRE
(pupil of Mr W. A. Laver, University Conservatorium). Registered teacher of PIANOFORTE, THEORY, & HARMONY.
Pupils prepared for Matriculation and other Examinations.
Terms from £1 1s. Preston visited twice a week. Address—
182 High St. (opp. Town Hall), Northcote.

EDGAR B. SCHWAEBSCH,
Teacher of PIANOFORTE.
Pupils prepared for Competitions and Examinations.
For Terms apply "Edgehill," 451 High St., Northcote.

J. E. RIPPER, PIANO and ORGAN BUILDER.
REPAIRS and TUNINGS a Speciality.
All Work Guaranteed.
Factory—271 Smith Street, Fitzroy.
Private address—6 Martin St., Northcote.

MRS. and MISS WHEELER,
Teachers PIANOFORTE, SINGING, &c.
Also accept engagements Concert, Dances (Piano and Violin).
Address: 27 Lawry Street, Northcote.

MR. CHAS. STOTT, VIOLINIST,
6 STOTT ST. (near Croxton station).
Pupils prepared for Competitions and Examinations. Terms, moderate, in advance. Pupils visited if desired. Orchestral class, Thursday evenings. Bands provided for wedding parties, &c.

Do You Know
that if your advertisement were here every resident in the district would be reading it just as
YOU ARE READING THIS

The Leader
JUSTICE TO ALL.
Published Every Saturday Morning.
SATURDAY, MARCH 27.

The one topic that has overshadowed every other this week is that of the gift of a Dreadnought to the Motherland. The idea, first promulgated by one of our morning papers and immediately supported by the other, has "caught on" and a great wave of patriotic enthusiasm has spread over the continent. For centuries now Britain's sea power has made her unassailable. Her naval supremacy has been her pride as well as her necessity. With a shock, however, has come the word from high quarters that that supremacy is to be challenged, and that at no distant date. In secret her most formidable rival has been working with feverish haste to gain the lead. In a word a crisis has arrived, when a great answering effort must be made if her old position of pride and safety is to be maintained. Financially speaking, England, with her unparalleled resources, could respond to almost any extent. That goes without saying. But this does not prevent it being meet and fitting that the outlying dominions of the Empire should not make some contribution, some sacrifice, to protect the heart of Empire, for while that remains safe so are we in these southern seas free from care of the invader. And while the gift of a Dreadnought would be such a material addition to the power for offence or defence of the Motherland, it serves as a magnificent example in the eyes of the world of the solidarity of the Empire. Even if it means a sacrifice to us it is one that need not be begrudged, as up to the present our contribution towards the up-keep of the means of our protection has been but a trifle. We have much arrears to make up. If the Commonwealth Government fails to appreciate the situation, it is well our State authorities can rise to the occasion.

Mr. J. A Leach, master of science, is to deliver a lecture next Wednesday evening, in the Northcote town hall, on "The Mosquito," a subject that should be specially interesting at the present time, more particularly in the attractive form it will be presented by Mr. Leach, who is the inspector of nature study in the Education Department. The lecture has been arranged by the committee of the Northcote Public Library, and a cordial invitation is extended to the public to be present.

Constable and Mrs. Spratling, of Bell street, Preston, have suffered another very sad loss in the death of their second eldest daughter, Irene Olive, aged 15 years and 7 months. It is only 10 weeks since the eldest daughter died, both being victims of the dread scourge consumption. Very great sympathy is felt for Mr. and Mrs Spratling and family in their exceptionally sad bereavement. The funeral which took place on Thursday was largely attended. The interment was at the Coburg cemetery, where the Rev. Geo. Carson conducted the burial service and scholars of the Sabbath School sang hymns that were the favorites of the deceased girl.

Cr. Mitchell, one of the keenest disciples of Isaac Walton in Northcote, and an assiduous fisher in the Yan Yean, got a present from those waters on Saturday last that pleased him mightily. It was a Murray cod 46lb in weight. He had the monster photographed by the town clerk so that he might always have the pleasure of looking at it.

At the Northcote Court on Monday, allusion was made to the death of Mr. E. Bastings, J.P. Dr. Cole, P.M. said that during the 7 years he had been coming out to Northcote, Mr. Bastings was one of the most regular attendants on the Bench, and his shrewd and kindly advice had always been forthcoming and he was sure they had all suffered a loss and would miss him very much. These sentiments were feelingly endorsed by Crs. McIntosh, Plant and Tharratt, J's. P. and also by Sergeant Trainor for the police.

The Northcote Branch of the A.N.A. held their usual fortnightly meeting on Thursday, March 25th. The president (Mr. Barry) being in the chair. Three new members were elected and three proposals received. The secretary of the rifle club reported that the branch sustained its first defeat this season on Wednesday night at the hands of the Collingwood branch by 4 points. The branch unanimously carried a motion, moved by Cr. Hayes and seconded by Mr. Field, that a resolution be placed on the minutes in recognition of the great services rendered to the Town of Northcote by the late Mr. Edwin Bastings in his long term in the municipal council. Both gentlemen spoke at length, speaking in terms of eulogy of the deceased gentleman's character. Messrs Clauscen, Batten, Stott, and F. H. Mitchell in supporting the motion also spoke very highly of the veteran councillor. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 7th, in the annexe, when a rifle match will be fired between the Heidelberg and Northcote branches.

High-Class Tailoring.
Of course, there are arguments in favor of low-grade tailoring, but what about the contra arguments? When a man considers both sides of the question he generally concludes that the low grade side of the question isn't worth much.
We have a 25 years' reputation for HIGH-CLASS TAILORING at REASONABLE PRICES.
GEORGE WARDROP
THE GOOD-VALUE TAILOR,
CORNER SMITH and JOHNSTON STS, COLLINGWOOD.
Ring up 4498 for Patterns.

Printing!
Work of Every Class executed at the LEADER OFFICE

Localisms.

For the sixth time Cr. Plant has been elected Mayor of Northcote.

Lieut. Colonel Braithwaite, of Preston, was entertained at the Preston shire hall last evening and presented with a pair of field glasses, the occasion for such demonstration of good will being his departure for England on the 31st inst.

Amongst the engagements Preston District F.C. have made for their annual concert, which takes place on Wednesday, 5th May, is Madame Maggie Stirling and Miss Doris Carter.

With a view to preventing present confusion, but more particularly to perpetuate the name of one of the old pioneers who had done much for the place in days gone by Preston council on Monday evening decided (property-owners being willing) to change the name of one of the two Station streets to Clinch Avenue.

On Sunday, 28th March, at 3 p.m., in the Methodist Church, South Preston, the Rev. C. Dugan will deliver a special address to the parents and scholars, after which the prizes will be distributed. [Advt.]

Preston council on Monday evening got one of the strangest requests—and from a solicitor no less—we ever remember coming before it. Joseph Woolf wanted to know if the council "could give him any information with a view of ascertaining the average price of sheepskins for the past 5 years." Is Joseph having a sly joke.

Wm. Walker, watchmaker, jeweller and optician, 92 High street, South Northcote, advertises that he dispenses oculist's prescriptions. He also brings his specialities in watches under notice.

The Northcote South Ratepayers' Association are holding a monster all bioscope entertainment at the Northcote Park on Wednesday evening, 7th April, the proceeds to be in aid of the formation of the children's playground in the park. "Come and help the children" say the association.

The anniversary services of the Northcote Presbyterian Church will be conducted to-morrow when the preachers will be the Rev. S. H. McGowan morning and afternoon and Rev. J. Barnaby in the evening. There will be special singing by the scholars. The annual tea meeting and distribution of prizes take place on Wednesday evening, the celebrations concluding on April 7th with a grand bioscope entertainment.

J. A. Sinclair, "the people's butcher," advertises special reductions in the prices of meat this week—mutton from 1d per lb.

In connection with the Northcote Methodist Sunday School a special service will be held in the new school hall to-morrow afternoon at 2.30, when the prizes will be distributed by Mr. J. G. Membrey, M.L.A. An address will be given by Mr. Geo. Hunter, and there will be special singing by the scholars. The parents and friends are invited.

Mr. Chas. Showers, of Preston, who has just retired from the management of McIntyre Bros., Ltd., was not allowed to depart without a souvenir of his connection with the company. Before leaving on Monday evening he was presented with a letter from his late fellow employees expressive of the esteem in which they held him, also with a case of pipes for himself and a handsome silver tea set for Mrs. Showers.

At a meeting of the I.O.R. fancy fair committee held on Tuesday evening last Mrs. Harry was elected president and the following were elected on the executive committee:—Mrs. Dennis, Miss Oats, Messrs Auty, Glanfield, Newnham, Lacey, Findlay, and Dyson. The next meeting of the committee will be held on Tuesday evening next.

The Northcote Cricket Club are making arrangements for a series of socials for the winter evenings on the same basis as last year, and which proved such enjoyable gatherings. A strong committee have taken the management and will do all in their power to make the socials a success.

Hattam & Hattam, drapers, High street, Northcote, announce that to-day is the grand opening day for bargains in winter goods and new season's novelties. Circulars giving all particulars are circulated with this issue.

Preston shire council invite fresh tenders for the supply of 250 yds. 2-in. metal section 1 High street, 250 yards 2-inch metal section 2 Epping road and 250 yards 2½-inch metal section 2 Plenty road.

Northcote council have not yet been able to make the appointments of overseer of works and sanitary and meat inspector. Applicants are offering in great number, and not only from all over Victoria, but several of the other States. The "weeding out" process was commenced on Monday evening—the sitting lasting till 12 p.m.—and the final selection will be made next week.

T. Trevena, 266 Smith street, Collingwood, advertises to-day his "Wonderful overcoat offer"—"distinctive, dressy, and comfortable" overcoats made to order from 45s.

The event of the year—the Scholars' night—in connection with the South Preston Methodist Sunday School will be held in the church on Tuesday, 30th March. Special attraction, "Building the Lighthouse," by scholars, also songs, recitations, dialogues, etc. Admission free—collection. [Advt.]

"The Mosquito—a Bloodthirsty Enemy of Mankind," is the subject of a lecture to be delivered by Mr. J. A. Leach, M.Sc., next Wednesday evening in the Northcote town-hall. The lecture will be illustrated with lantern slides, and as there is no charge for admission a good attendance is expected. Cards of admission may be had at T. Thomson's, news agency, at the shops of W. Williams, grocer, High street, at the Northcote Library, and from E. Lees, estate agent. [Advt.]

Visit F. G. Smith's show of autumn goods.

Nurse Rokehurst Roberts intimates a change of residence to No 2 Rossmoyne street, Northcote.

Now that the new State School buildings at Northcote are advancing towards completion it can be seen that they are going to be very fine architecturally and certainly the extra and very superior accommodation they will provide will be a boon towards which the eyes of both teachers and scholars have for years past been longingly turned.

Mr. Chas. Stott, teacher of violin, &c., 6 Stott street, near Croxton station, notifies that he prepares pupils for competitions and provides bands for wedding parties, &c.

Because of a slight put upon him as mayor in not being asked to lay the foundation stone of the new grand stand at Victoria Park, Cr. Evans, of Collingwood, says he will wear the robes of office no more, as he considers they also have been dishonored.

Preston sanitary fees for half year ending 30th September must be paid on or before April 14, or service will be discontinued.

Property Sales.

W. H. Edgar announces that he will sell by auction to-day, Saturday, 27th March, several properties in the estate of the late Richard Trudgeon, particulars of which are advertised elsewhere.

On Saturday next, April 3rd, Stott & Bastings will conduct an important sale of shop, residential, and other properties in various parts of the town. All particulars are advertised.

Messrs Nicol, Miller and Co., Prop. Ltd., report having sold by public auction during the week six allotments of land in Elizabeth and Bruce streets, Preston, on account of Mr. James Tomkins, of Benalla, to Mr. Atkins, of Brunswick; also recently by private contract, on account of Mr. J. McKimmie, 6-roomed w.b. house and land in Bell street, to Mr. Geo. Hamilton; on account of Mr. J. J. Sweeney, 66ft. allotment, Harold street, to Mr. W. Moore; on account of Mr. J. Millsom, allotment of land situate in Rossmoyne street, to Mr. W. Parkin, Fitzroy; an account of Mr. Jas. Tomkins, two allotments situate in Paterson street, Preston, to Mr. J. Walsh; on account of Mr. McGeorge, 40ft. allotment, High street, to Mr. J. J. Sweeney, all at satisfactory figures.

Epping Shire News.

The first annual sports, under the auspices of the local athletic club, is to be held on Easter Monday, 12th April. A very interesting programme of events has been arranged, particulars of which will be found in our advertising columns. Nominations must be made with the secretaries, Edward Jas. Dea and A. McHutchison before 9 p.m. on 3rd April.

"SOMEONE HAS BLUNDERED."

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—I presume your report of the Evans v. Clarke case in last week's issue is quite accurate as your reports invariably are. If so, someone has blundered. Clarke is accused by Evans of throwing stones on the latter's roof. Clarke denies having done so and asserts that he was not in Fairfield at all on the evening mentioned, 7th February. Evans asserts that he travelled with Clarke in the same train (he doesn't say in the same compartment) to Westgarth and followed the accused to his father's house which he entered at 10 o'clock. Why did not Mr. Evans speak to the young man? and why did he not report the case to the young man's parents? Well so far we have assertion and denial equally balanced. The one man's word is as good as that of the other. Mr. Harold Clarke I know has hitherto led a blameless life. Evans I do not know; but presume he also is free from blame. If that were all the evidence it would be hard to decide which was in the wrong. But lo, and behold, five witnesses came forward and proved an alibi in favor of Clarke. Their sworn evidence put in consecutive order is as follows:—Two witnesses spoke to Mr. Harold Clarke at St. Paul's Cathedral and made enquiries for his family at 8.40 p.m. The train Evans says he travelled in with Clarke left Fairfield at 8.46. The accused was seen and spoken to by another witness on Clifton Hill station at 9.40 p.m. A fourth witness swore that he had a conversation with Clarke in Clifton Hill at 10 p.m. A fifth witness swore that he and Clarke had a talk together at the Northcote rockeries between 10 and 11 p.m. Other two witnesses who sat on Mr. Clarke's verandah from 9 till 10.45 swore that accused had not entered his father's house when they left, and finally the accused's parents swore that he came home at 11 p.m. There we have overwhelming evidence to prove an alibi yet in the face of it all the young man is pronounced guilty and bound over to keep the peace and all those respectable witnesses are guilty of perjury. If that kind of justice is meted out no man is safe.—Yours, &c.,

HECTOR FERGUSON.

Dr. Wilkinson and the Board of Public Health:

CURIOUS CONTRADICTIONS.

At the meeting of the Preston council on Monday evening Dr. W. C. Wilkinson, health officer, submitted the following report:—

Three communications from Board of Public Health to me:—

First letter.—About disinfection of hotel because a consumptive lodged there.—Surely it would be less cruel to isolate, police supervise, or otherwise distinguish "dangerous" consumptives, say 10 per cent. of the population, than expose to risk the other 90 per cent. Moreover, innocent householders are put to great expense, loss of business, inability to let houses, &c., owing to the widespread terror of the Great White Plague. This will not be allayed for a generation.

Second letter. On the case of Gay, the consumptive, since dead, who was brought to our shire hall on trial, kissed the book and scattered his germs abroad, the Board evidently thinks him harmless, as the case "appears to disclose no ground for a prosecution under the Health Act." But the Board in minute, 28/11/'03, says—"Surely it is murderous for a body that has the power to put a stop to it to fold arms and let the Great White Plague run its unfettered course.

Third letter. List of places in Victoria where a consumptive must be notified as dangerous:—In all cities (12), in 10 out of 11 towns, 8 out of 37 boroughs, and in only 2—Preston and Heidelberg (the most densely populated)—shires.

Reasons for the direct contrary are given in report 117.—Any restriction, prohibition, or disability on the consumptive or any person connected with him, whether in his employment, occupation, means of livelihood or residence, plunges us at once into a maze of contradictions, from which there is no escape.

The report was referred to the committee of the whole.

Preston Branch A.N.A.

The usual fortnightly meeting was held in the Bradford hall on Wednesday, 17th inst., the president (Mr. G. Kupsch) in the chair, and a fair attendance of members. One new member was elected on clearance. Mr. Fegent was appointed chemist to the branch. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. P. H. Doran for framing the souvenirs of the American Fleet visit presented by Mr. J. Hume Cook, M.H.R. It was decided to co-operate with Preston A.W.A. in holding a ball in the shire hall on the 7th May. The A.W.A. are also tendering a social evening to the A.N.A. on their next branch night. The delegates to the metropolitan committee gave a lengthy report. A vote of thanks was passed to the Messrs I. Barrow and W. Nichol, two of the trustees, for their attendance and for the kindly interest manifested at all times in the welfare of the branch. Mr. Barrow, in responding, complimented the branch upon the business manner in which its affairs had been conducted, and upon the splendid financial position it had attained.

An Injustice.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—A local physician recently prescribed spirits for a member of the Northcote branch of the Order of Rechabites, and an outsider hearing of same complained in an exaggerated way to the officials of the tent. Now, Sir, seeing the doctor knew when ordering the spirits that the patient was a member of the branch proves he must have considered it a case of dire necessity, and knowing such how can it be possible for reasonable men to condemn without sifting every detail in connection with the matter is a puzzle that demands an explanation. Speaking for myself, Sir, I may state that I would take fifty glasses of spirits if necessary to safe my life. Yours, &c., FAIR PLAY.

PRESTON POLICE COURT.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23.

[Before Dr. Cole, P.M., and Mr. I. Barrow, J.P.]

DEBT.

E. Allchin v. John Minford. Goods sold and delivered, £24 3s 2d. Order for amount with 5s costs.

A NEW J.P.

At this stage Mr. Allchin, J.P., took his seat on the Bench for the first time.

Dr. Cole, P.M., said he had pleasure in welcoming the president and hoped he would be a constant attendant, as Preston seemed to suffer from a dearth of magistrates, as there was rarely anybody besides Mr. Barrow to assist him on the Bench.

Mr. Allchin said in reply that he would attend as often as possible and endeavour to assist to deal out justice to both rich and poor.

NOT SENDING CHILDREN TO SCHOOL.

Truant Inspector McConnochie obtained verdicts as follows:—John Watts (2 cases), fined 7s 6d; Wm. Jones (1 case), 2s; James Walker (1 case), 2s; Geo. Underhill (2 cases), 4s; Frank Allan (1 case), 2s. Cases against Alice Wright and Mary Fitzgerald were withdrawn.

The Croxton Park dancing competition, held on Wednesday evening, resulted as follows:—Cake walk—Miss Doris Julian (Prahran) 1, Misses Stranger and Clarke 2, Miss Violet Thayer 3. Highland Fling—Miss Violet Thayer 1, Miss Lucy Battie 2, Miss Janet Livingstone 3. The gold medals will be presented at the concert on Wednesday evening next by Cr. Woolhouse.

For the new position of sanitary inspector and lamplighter Preston council have had upwards of a hundred applications. These were gone through at a long special meeting of the council on Tuesday evening, and the number reduced to four. A final selection will be made next week.

Northcote town council notify that interest at the rate of 6 per cent. will be charged on all amounts due for special improvement rates Nos. 1 and 2 unless they are paid on or before 31st inst.

Postmaster-General Thomas is called upon to be a modern antipodean Hercules, and the Augean stable is the Sydney Post Office. According to a witness before the Postal Commission, and first hand evidence endured by the members of the Commission later, the General P.O. of the Ma metropolis would be condemned by the Board of Health as a cow-yard. We know now why there are occasional blocks in deliveries; it is brought about by the action of the unfortunate sorters in being compelled to knock off work to scratch, the establishment being infested with fleas.

NORTHCOTE METHODIST S.S.

ANNIVERSARY SERVICES CONTINUED.

The celebrations in connection with the fifty fifth anniversary were continued last Sunday. The warm and genial weather was all that could be wished for. Large congregations assembled and were again delighted with the anniversary hymns as rendered by the children under the baton of Mr. T. Trevena. The preachers were Revs. E. T. Cox, B. Ditterich, and T. Alday, each of whom delivered specially interesting sermons.

THE SCHOLARS' NIGHT.

On Tuesday evening the scholars' night was held in the new school hall. There was a very large attendance of parents, friends, and children all of whom were well entertained with the performance of the young people.

The junior superintendant (Mr. W. H. Gray) presided. In his opening remarks Mr. Gray said that they all felt gratified to see their old friend Mr. Dennis present. (Applause). Mr. Dennis had been associated with the school for very many years and no man was held in higher esteem. (Applause). They were pleased also to see another gentleman present, one who had labored for a long time in the school and one who had exerted an influence for good in the lives of many of the scholars. He referred to Mr. F. Buttler. (Applause.) He would like these gentlemen to take their seats on the platform, also Mr Little who had originated the idea of their present school buildings. (Applause).

The programme, which reflected credit upon the performers and their instructors, was as follows:—Dialogue, "The May," Misses Ella Roberts, Laura Polkinghan, Lizzie Petrie, Vera Bennett, Eva Gribble, Myrtle Samson; action song, "The Reapers," Bert Osborne, Stan Membrey, Walter Williams, Jim Membrey, Misses Myrtle Spencer, Girtie Newham, Nellie Newham, Gladys Roberts, Rita Williams, Winnie Knights, Beatie Membrey, Doris Hansen; dialogue, "Faith, Hope and Charity," Lily Aldridge, Lizzie Petrie, Olive Russell, Bert Osborne, Geo. Johnson; solo, Miss Hazel Watson; dialogue, "Children of the Year," Claude Membrey, Jim Stevens, Florrie Wright, Walter Williams, Haddie Randle, Walter Crowe, Charlie Youren, May Ryan, Bert Osborne, Doris Mellow, Alf. Gluyas, Howard Harry; recitation, Master Jim Stevens; dialogue, "The Cardinal Points," Misses Elsie Gluyas, Irene Parker, Annie Smith, Alice Membrey, Howard Harry (Esquimo), Alf. Gluyas (Hindoo), Claude Membrey (Indian), Charlie Youren (Negro); recitation, Miss Hilda Hansen; action song, "The Coach and Four," soloist, Master Stan Membrey; horses, Bert Osborne, Jim Membrey, Walter Williams, Les Dennis; coach, Lily Aldridge, Vera Bennett, Kattie Little, Vera Gray; recitation, Miss Ella Roberts; dialogue, "Browne with an 'E'".—Betsy, Miss Bertha Robilliard, Laura, Miss Carrie Membrey, Mrs Brown, Miss Eveline Roberts, Mr. B. Brown, Mr. Bert. Membrey, Lawyer Grable, Mr. Alf. Smith, Mr. A. Browne, Mr. Norman Trevena, Mr. Goodman, Mr. Will Russell, Trot, Mr. Les. Youren, Frew, Mr. Claude Allen.

Mr. Harrison moved and Mr. S. Dennis seconded a vote of thanks to the preachers and all others who had assisted in making the anniversary such a splendid success, which was carried with hearty acclamation.

A GERMAN AUSTRALIA?

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—Can you find room for an appeal to our worthy mayor to call a meeting to support the proposal that Australia present a battleship to the Empire? If so, I would trespass upon your space to point out the following facts for serious consideration:—

(a) Germany with her tremendous army could not also afford a prolonged strife for naval supremacy. She, therefore, contemplates an almost immediate blow. This may be a matter of weeks or months only.
(b) To make that blow successfully it is not necessary for her navy to be equal with Britain's. The latter not knowing where the blow is to be struck must spread her forces. The attacking force would be concentrated on the weakest spot.
(c) Germany is over-crowded. Her population is rapidly increasing. She requires practically unoccupied territory. Neither France nor Britain would answer her requirements. Australia and Canada are left. The United States would not allow German occupation of Canada. The inference is clear.
(d) The blow would be struck at London, and, if successful, terms would be dictated, and a German Governor would be sent out to Australia to supersede Mr. Fischer (I beg pardon, Mr. Fisher).
(e) Cables would be cut at the commencement of hostilities, mail steamers driven to neutral ports for sanctuary, and the first news heard might be the instructions brought weeks later by a German squadron to the Admiral and Governors on the Australian station from the British Government, ordering them to return home. Can we picture the horrible anxiety of that interval?

Those considerations are worth thinking out and acting upon. The possibilities will, please God, become impossibilities by the Empire making immediate sacrifices.

A man rushed into the City of Johnston, in America, and stated a dam had burst and unless the population fled they would be drowned. The local Mr. Fisher said it was a case of hysteria and promised that at the next council meeting a committee would be appointed to examine the reservoir. Some remember the result, but they are not the inhabitants—*they* are all drowned.—Yours, etc.,

W. ILLINGWORTH.

Northcote, March 26, 1909.

Preston Rifle Club.

On the 6th inst. we put in an appearance at Port Melbourne in an endeavour to shoot our usual monthly at 800 and 900 yards. Whoever controlled the weather bureau, however, must have pulled out the wrong plug, and the water plug at that, for it was one of the "wettest" shoots that has been recorded by our club. Yet, despite the downpour, everyone seemed to carry a smile and it was only now and then that one met a shooter who was inclined to "blue" the atmosphere. We had a fair muster considering the weather, and, of course, the shooting was not up to the usual form, the best from the rifle being Franke with 54, C. Brewster 52. A drop of nine degrees discovered H. Howe with 43, W. Howe 42. The different antidotes against a wetting that I have heard since the 6th would fill a moderate sized volume.

On the 20th we shot a match against St. Kilda. The weather was fine though the wind showed a tendency to "fishtail." We could only muster 9 men and St. Kilda agreed to shoot a like number. The result was a win for the "seasiders" by 6 points, our best being W. Howe 63, C. Brewster 62, Withrington 59, Michel 58. St. Kilda's best were Bayley 64, Vivian, Bunn and Donaldson 62. The totals were—St. Kilda 524, Preston 518.

Remember Neerim is our destination at Easter and those who want to go should get in their names so as the team can be chosen. Someone said the miniature range is closed. You just come up and see for yourself.

Those who may still wonder why Germany is covetous about England's naval supremacy and trade predominance need only turn to the latest Imperial statistics (issued the day before the last mail left) in order to understand the Fatherland's attitude. To-day the British flag flies over 11,882,000 square miles of this globe, and 398,000,000 people—white, black, red, and yellow—while the gross trade of the whole of the Dominions was £1 067,000,000 last year. William with his mailed fist is hungering for a slice of that colossal bulk of commerce, and it will take some holding.

AUSTRALIAN POETS.

At the invitation of the Northcote branch of the Australian Women's Association there was a good attendance at the town hall last Monday evening to hear a lecturette by Mrs. J. C. Robinson, M.A., on the Australian Poets, assisted by Miss Charlotte Malmgren (elocutionist) and Miss Amy Oaten, D.M.S.V. (vocalist. This trio, with the aid of an accompanist, provided a most profitable and enjoyable evening—one that could be well repeated before every branch of the A.W.A. and A.N.A. Besides being educational and entertaining such an evening is calculated to create a taste for poetry as well as to popularise the works of our Australian poets. Each of the ladies taking part excelled in their particular portion of the programme, and their efforts were greatly appreciated and always applauded.

Mrs. Robinson said that during the century or so of their national life about 100 poets had suffered and sung in our hierarchy of writers. Of a minute minority of these she would alone be able to mention. Everyone had heard of the maxim that the song-makers of a nation were of more importance than its law-makers. Having that in mind she asked whether their singers possessed the power of raising in Australian minds emotions, either noble, or tender, or patriotic, that were distinctive and agreeable universal, such as were not to be attained elsewhere. Although a school, racy of the soil, had sprung into existence, there were no poets of first rank among our bards. Neither past nor present had produced the supreme singer whom the empire or the world at large could accept as the destined heir of Time, infused with the essence of Australia's spirit and capable of giving her adequate voice in the councils of eternity. But such as their Australian poets were, they, in a measure form the whole literary outfit of the settlers and selectors, the stock-riders, rouseabouts, and all the odd flotsam and jetsam which exist on the verge of civilization—the heroic founders of a nation who suffer the pains and penalties of pioneering, and who prepare the way for others to follow. Not all versifiers were poets, remarked the speaker. The jingling of like endings did not constitute poetry. True poetry had been variously defined. One definition was—"The exquisite expression of an exquisite impression." There were three who could be regarded as a trinity of Australian poets, who achieved fame during their lifetime, but, whose works, had received greater recognition since their death. They are A. L. Gordon, H. C. Kendall, and J. B. Stephens. There is general agreement that they have not been surpassed. Having dealt with some of the works of the poets named in an appreciative manner, the lecturess referred to the writings of many other Australian poets, including Lawson, Patterson, Dyson, Boake, Evans, O'Dowd, O'Hara, Ogilvie, and Daley.

Glimpsing briefly at the history and methods of their national poets, Mrs. Robinson said it would be observed that most of their work, though often excellent, and sometimes exquisite, was inclined to be fragmentary. That was inevitable. No known nation had burst upon the world with a complete repertory of song. Many preparatory ages passed before England had her Shakespeare, Germany her Goethe, and America had not yet heard the trumpet blast of her national poet. While there was much that was admirable in Australian poetry and much that was melodious, the reason why they had no great national bard, according to Dr. Strong, was because they had not reached a true, broad, and inspiring Democracy.

In her concluding remarks, Mrs. Robinson said:—We have not yet had time to settle down and form any decided racial characteristics. Knowledge comes but wisdom lingers. Commercial progress may advance, but the breath and finer spirit of all knowledge hastens slowly. No great crisis has fused our common sympathies and blended a national sentiment. Old forms have been colored by the strange conditions of a new country, but no great poem has thrilled the continent from end to end—perhaps because in our present stage there is little praise and less profit in such a venture.

Recitals were given by Miss Malmgren as follow.—Commonwealth Ode, Bell Birds, A Sunset Fantasy, A Bush Christening, The Fire at Ross's Farm, The Spirit of the Flowers, and Bashful Gleeson.

Songs were rendered by Miss Oaten—Ah, Me Well-a-Day, In a Garden, Happy Creek (composed and accompanied by Miss Hilda Malmgren).

Mr. Membrey, M.L.A., presided, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the ladies on the motion of Messrs Rowe and Whalley.

Preston Branch A.W.A.

The fortnightly meeting was held Monday, March 15th, the president (Miss Oxanne) in the chair. A letter was received from the Board of Directors conveying their congratulations and high appreciation to secretary and officers of the branch. One new member was elected. It was decided to give prizes in connection with the Century Ball, on May 7th. Next meeting a euchre tournament for members only, and committee meeting with A.N.A. re ball. A full attendance is requested. Wednesday March 31st, evening to A.N.A.

FOOTBALL.

Players and intending players of the Northcote Football Club are requested to be at Croxton park to-day, where a scratch match is to be arranged. All footballers in the district cordially invited to be present.

Preston play a practice match in the park to-day.

TREVENA'S WONDERFUL OVERCOAT OFFER.—
Our Overcoats have already caused a stir, and people are wondering how we do it. Fact is we have made a Speciality of Ready to Wear Overcoats for the coming winter, and everybody is charmed with them, they are so distinctive, so dressy, and comfortable.
We've opened up the season with the finest variety of Overcoatings ever seen and made to order from
45/-
T. TREVENA, 266 Smith St., Collingwood
Tel. 410, City.

MOLLY'S CONVICT.

I.

Boom! boom! boom!

A rumbling noise, like the sound of thunder, awakened the echoes of the silent moor. It disturbed the peace reigning within the little moorland cottage, where, at a daintily-spread table, sat a silver-bearded man and a bright-faced girl. The girl shivered, and her cheeks grew pale. Her father started.

"Ah! Molly, lass," he cried, "some poor wretch has made his bid for freedom. May Heaven help him."

His usual grace before the meal took in the hunted man; for his heart was big.

Molly Thorne crossed from the table to the little curtained window and peered out into the mist creeping silently over the moor. The scene, dreary in its evening solitude, contrasted most unfavorably with the cosy, lamp-lit parlor. And she turned back to the warmth, full of pity for the desperate soul without.

After tea Mr. Thorne retired into his study. He was a novelist by profession, and although money was by no means over-plentiful, he and his pretty daughter lived in their tiny home in perfect happiness and comfort. The girl went back to her sewing, and for half an hour the busy fingers moved quickly. Her blue eyes were grave and thoughtful, and the young face wore a troubled look. Not far away stood the forbidding walls of a convict prison, and she grew sad as she thought of the fate that awaited the hunted man.

Suddenly she heard a gentle tapping on the door outside. Her heart stood still, and she sank back trembling in every limb. In a moment she had recovered, and felt ashamed of her fears. Then, rising swiftly, without a sound, she ran to the door and peered into the darkness. Her heart beat quickly as the light from the lamp shone on a man's face—a dark, haggard face, with a look that quickly melted her womanly soul.

"Who are you?" she whispered. "Why are you here?"

The man came nearer, and she saw that he was clothed in the hideous garb of the convict prison. Mechanically she opened wide the door, and stepped in.

The expression in his eyes magnetised her; a yearning, wistful expression, like that of a hunted stag at bay.

"Who am I?" he repeated. And to her surprise the tone was that of a man of refinement and breeding. He laughed bitterly. "Who am I? I am No. 402, and my home is——! That's where I've just come from, and you have the power to send me back—back to atone for a crime I never committed."

He lifted his hands with an expression of helplessness, and the girl watched his face working with an emotion he could not conceal. Something stirred within her—a woman's pity, a maiden's tenderness. He was at her mercy. His spare, lithe figure seemed to be mutely appealing for help in his terrible distress. Then he spoke again:

"I have been watching you through the window—that is why I knocked. I felt that you would help me; you look so good and gentle. I cannot go back to that place. And I will not."

His mouth grew hard as he uttered the last words. And instinctively Molly knew that he was no criminal.

"You must take off those clothes," she said, simply. "I think an old suit of father's will fit you."

She slipped softly out of the room, and in a moment returned with the clothes in her arms. He smiled gratefully as he took them from her, and she saw the moisture glistening in his eyes.

"Be as quick as you can. Father is in his study. He must never know, although I think he would do as I am doing. Yes, I'm sure he would. I will wait outside, and you can tap when you are ready."

As she stood in the corridor she wondered why she felt so happy. She could hardly realise that it was not all a dream. She listened, fearful of any sound. The house was quite still. From the gable of the house came the sound of the drip, drip, drip of water from the roof. She was pondering over the man's handsome face and refined speech when there came the signal she waited for, and she quietly returned to the parlor.

"Capital!" she whispered; "what a splendid fit! But for your hair, nobody would guess—what you were." She checked what she was about to say, and finished the sentence adroitly.

He smiled wistfully, and then began to pour out his thanks.

"May Heaven bless you!" he said. "I should have been caught before this but for you. And if I can only get to London I shall be safe. For I have friends, and they believe in my innocence."

"You must get to the junction tonight and catch the express. With this wide-awake hat no one will notice you in the darkness. And you must take this purse with you. There is not much in it; but, at any rate, it will carry you to London. And may Heaven be with you."

She blushed crimson at the warmth of gratitude expressed in his eyes. He did not speak. He simply took her hand and pressed it to his lips. Then she softly opened the door, and the next moment she was alone. For a long, long time, she stood watching from the tiny porch that in summer was starred with dainty jessamine, watching the mist-wreaths lingering in the distance like a dank, ghostly garment on the dark and lonely moor.

II.

For a year life went on its quiet, domestic course at the tiny moorland cottage as if that eventful night had been nothing but a bewildering dream. But Molly often thought of her convict, of his handsome face and pleasing voice; and she wondered whether his innocence had been proved. Then her father died suddenly of a heart weakness that nobody ever suspected. A week or two later the bank failed in a neighboring town, and half the village lost their savings. Molly Thorne lost more. She lost everything her father had saved from the scanty profits on his novel-writing, and when the worst became known, she found herself face to face with ruin.

She went to her landlord, a coarse, intemperate man whom she had known and hated from her childhood. He had often pestered her with his unwelcome attentions, yet, distasteful though it was, she was obliged to put the case before him and ask for a little time in which to pay her rent. His answer was a triumphant laugh and an offer of marriage. And she rose and went away without another word.

Before a week had passed a man came to the cottage and made an inventory of all she possessed. And the night before the sale her landlord came again. He was flushed, and he smelt of drink. He talked in a loud voice, and he said a good deal—so much that at last she turned him out of the house.

Only a few people came to the sale. The vicar was there, flushed and anxious, and when the auctioneer climbed upon a chair to open the sale he interrupted for a moment.

"May I say just one word?" he said, turning to the crowd. "I need not repeat the painful story which explains why this sale has become necessary. You all know Miss Thorne well, and you all knew her father. Their position amongst us has justified our action in subscribing a little money to buy her furniture, and so keep her home together here until she is able to regain her feet once more. We are not rich, and the bank failure has hit us hard, and so the money we have subscribed is very little. But I feel sure that the landlord will, even at this late hour, accept this money in payment, or in part payment, of the rent that is already owing through no fault of Miss Thorne."

A sympathetic murmur came from the audience, but the landlord turned upon the vicar with an impatient gesture.

"Look here," said he, "let's have less of this sentimental cant. This is a business meeting. Get on with the sale. If you think, Mr. Parson," he sneered, "that you're going to take the credit for a piece of cheap charity, you're mistaken. I'm going to buy myself."

The auctioneer, sympathetic though he was, could not refuse the landlord's order. So the sale commenced. The vicar made a few feeble bids, but the landlord outbid him with contemptuous ease. To the general surprise, however, the goods were not knocked down to him. The auctioneer had caught the sound of a bid from the back of the room. Everybody turned curiously, and there, standing in the doorway, was a stranger who had hitherto been unnoticed; a man, tall and of refined appearance.

The landlord turned his head with the others, and glared savagely at the newcomer. But the stranger did not flinch under his impudent stare. He simply ignored him. The vicar brightened visibly.

There were only two bidders—the landlord and the stranger. And within the next half-hour the bystanders witnessed a spectacle that seldom occurs outside fiction. Five pounds was paid by the stranger for a tea service, and four for a picture of an old lady that (except to its late owner) was worth only the price of its frame. Then came a piano—an old-fashioned instrument, woefully out of tune. No one else thought of bidding. The landlord started it with an evil grin, and the onlookers in the room became breathlessly silent. The bidding started at five pounds, and then rose to ten, then fifteen, and finally was bought by the stranger for twenty. The villagers gasped. To them such sums belonged to fairyland.

The sale was over at last, and the landlord, utterly defeated at every point, flung himself out of the room with an angry oath. The old vicar came up to the stranger and wrung his hand.

"Heaven bless you, sir!" he cried. "You've done a good work to-day. You have saved the home of the best and kindest little woman on God's earth."

"I know that," the stranger answered quietly. "I've just come in time. And I'm going to marry her before long."

He flushed, as he realised what a rash statement he was making. Marry a girl he had only seen once in the world, and then only because he was in the most wretched plight a human being can experience! No wonder the vicar looked amazed.

"You know her, then? I'm glad of that. A month or so later, and you'd have been too late."

"Yes, I know that; but I'm doubtful whether she will know me. Anyway, we'll soon settle that. I suppose you can get a special license here, if I need one?"

"But doesn't she know?" the vicar gasped.

"Not yet!" the stranger replied.

* * * * * *

Night had fallen over the lonely moor before Molly Thorne reached her cottage from the farm where she had spent most of the day of the sale. As she crossed the last stretch of waste she choked back a little sob; she remembered that there would be no furniture, and no warmth when she reached the tiny cottage. It was to be her last night in the old home.

But when she turned the corner of the lane and saw lights in the windows she started with surprise. Her heart beat a little quicker as she stepped up to the door and saw through the window that her furniture was still there. Nothing had been taken away!

She was so agitated that she timidly knocked upon the door instead of entering. A tall figure swung it open, and the light streamed out into the night air. For a moment she thought it must be the new tenant, and her indignation knew no bounds. Then the man spoke, inviting her into the little cottage with a voice that was strange, and yet familiar—and so kind.

Then she caught sight of the face as he turned to the light, and recognised him at once. And somehow she fell into his arms without pausing to think; which was very daring and scandalous, no doubt, considering that they had never been introduced. But then she was wet and cold, and lonely, and it was as if she had been suddenly taken into Paradise. Besides, he never objected, for without a word of explanation why he was there, or why the furniture and the supper were there, or even why the convict of a year ago was arrayed in a stylish suit of the latest London fashion, he took the pretty, pale face in his strong, warm hands, and kissed her upon the lips.

Strict Obedience to Orders.

On a day in June, 1862, in the early part of the American Civil War, General Hood, of the Texas brigade, halted each regiment in turn and gave his orders. To the Fourth he said:

"Soldiers of the Fourth, I know as little of your destination as you do. If, however, any of you learn or suspect it, keep it a secret. To every one who asks questions answer, 'I don't know.' We are now under the orders of General Jackson, and I repeat them to you."

General Jackson also gave strict orders against foraging; but apples were plentiful, and it was contrary to nature for hungry soldiers not to eat them, and so it came about that on the march to Staunton General Jackson saw a Texan sitting on the branch of an apple-tree, busily engaged in filling his haversack with the choicest fruit. The General reined in his horse.

"What are you doing in that tree, sir?" he asked, with characteristic curtness.

"I don't know," replied the Texan.

"What command do you belong to?"

"I don't know."

"Is your command ahead of you or behind you?"

"I don't know."

Thus it went on; "I don't know," being given as answer to every question.

Finally Jackson asked sternly:

"Why do you give me that answer to every question?"

"'Cause them's the orders our general gin us this mornin', an' he tole us he got 'em that or way straight from ole Jackson!" replied the man in the tree.

General Jackson rode on.

No Fear of John.

"I canna' leave ye thus, Nancy," a good old Scotchman wailed. "Ye're too auld to work, an' ye couldna' live in the almshouse. Gin I die, ye maun marry anither man, wha'll keep ye in comfort in yer auld age."

"Nay, nay, Andy," answered the good spouse; "I couldna' wed anither man, for what wad I do wi' twa husbands in Heaven?"

Andy pondered long over this; but suddenly his face brightened.

"I ha'e it, Nancy!" he cried. "Ye ken auld John Clommens? He's a kind man, but he is na' a member o' the kirk. He likes ye, Nancy, an' gin ye'll marry him, 'twill be all the same in Heaven—John's na' Christian, and he's na' likely to get there."

A Queen of the Halls.

"But surely you must see, surely you must realise that if you return into Ellen's life you will ruin all her chances. You are her mother, it is true; but she thinks you dead. Best for her to remain in that belief."

Edward Bannister spoke in cold, convincing tones; but the woman seated before him with hardening face laughed—bitter, angry laughter.

"I suppose you mean she has been brought up in your own narrow, prim little world, that knows nothing of music-hall performers, and that she would be ashamed, humiliated to the soul, if she guessed that her mother still lived—a variety star? Well, her prejudices will have to be shocked, for she's got to know the truth. When I left her in your care years ago there was no stipulation that I should not one day claim her."

"You have forgotten her for ten years," he interposed. "Now it suits your whim suddenly to remember her existence. You were in some unnamed trouble, and I pitied you and offered your child shelter and a home because once I had loved you—loved you most dearly. You did not give me your confidence—I did not question. Whether you left your husband or whether he had left you I do not know, nor his name, nor, indeed, anything about him. I asked you nothing then, I ask you nothing now, but I do challenge your right to disturb Ellen's life."

"A child should have some affection for its parent. Surely love might form links that would unite us?"

"You speak of love? What love could you expect or demand from a girl whom you left without a word for ten years?"

A wave of scarlet passed over Violet Wilchester's face.

"I was fighting the world during those ten years," she said. "I had not time for anything else. But I am not ashamed of those ten years, nor of their record. Do you think they have spoiled me? Have I come back broken on the wheel of misfortune?"

She threw back her head and regarded him with defiant, mocking eyes. But Edward Bannister looked back at her coldly. The charm was dead so far as he was concerned. A man of quiet and studious mind, to him this woman seemed frankly impossible.

"Listen, Violet!"

A note in his voice arrested her attention. "There is a reason for your keeping from Ellen that you are still living—a reason which I have not yet named. She is engaged to be married to the heir of a man who has similar views to my own. An adopted son, Cecil Wynwood must naturally obey his guardian's wishes, and he had always desired that Cecil should marry someone who could help him in a career. But finding that Cecil was bent upon marrying Ellen, he gave his consent at last, albeit reluctantly. But first, before he would countenance it at all, he saw me, questioned me as to the girl's parentage, and received from me an account that I had always decided to give, whenever called upon to do so.

"I assured him that the girl was quite alone in the world, without any relatives at all, and he accepted my word. But, Violet, call it prejudice or what you may, be sure of this, that if he knows his adopted son is engaged to a girl whose mother is a singer at music halls he would immediately withdraw his consent, and Ellen—well, all her life would be spoiled, for she loves Cecil Wynwood—loves him with all the force and purity of a girl's fresh young heart. Oh, Violet, don't come between your child and her own happiness."

Vi Wilchester turned away, not unmoved by his appeal. She gave a low sigh, and played nervously with her gloves.

"I suppose if I told you that I cared for Ellen it would be hard for you to believe? If I said to you that there has never been a day in which I have not thought of her, and looked forward to the time when I should return to England and take her back to live with me, our two selves alone in the world? Perhaps this hope was in my heart. But, of course," she shrugged her shoulders and smiled a strange, wistful smile, "if you think it is best for me to do as you say, why, then——"

She was interrupted at that moment by the door being rather unceremoniously pushed open, and Ellen herself appeared on the threshold. There was a joyous smile upon her lips. She looked as fresh and lovely as a dew-drenched rose, with her tender eyes and her young, exquisite face. She paused in embarrassment, and betrayed a moment's surprise at the sight of Bannister's modish visitor.

"I'm so sorry," she murmured, and would have retreated; but Bannister called her back. Violet was staring at the girl with wide, eager eyes.

"Don't run away, Ellen," he said. "I want to introduce you to this lady. You will be interested to know her. She is an actress, from America. Her name is Miss Wilchester."

Ellen held out her hand in friendly fashion, her own gaze still resting upon the face which seemed in some strange fashion oddly familiar to her, yet more as a face remembered from a dream than of anyone she had ever actually known.

Violet held that hand in a warm, tender pressure, but she could find no words to speak. Her admirable composure had vanished now, but Bannister, to cover her confusion, chatted easily and pleasantly. Ellen, however, fancying that her presence there was disturbing, soon withdrew, but the wonder was still in her mind, the question in her heart: "Where had she seen this woman. Who was she?"

When the door had closed Violet Wilchester turned once more to her old admirer.

"Let it be as you wish," she said. "Ellen shall not know her mother who nightly sings songs to packed music halls—her sweetheart's susceptibilities shall not be shocked."

"I did not say that it was Cecil Wynwood," he interposed, "but his father by adoption, Mr. Black—Harvey Black."

Violet's face was turned away once more from Bannister, and he did not see the blank look that had suddenly come into it. But he heard the clatter of her sunshade as it fell from her grasp into the fender. She stooped to pick it up, and took quite a long time over the simple action.

"Well, let this Mr. Harvey Black have no fear that his adopted son will be committing a mesalliance, and introducing an unwelcome member in the person of myself into that honored family. I have been dead to Ellen for ten years—let her think me dead for the rest of life."

* * * * *

But fate or chance willed it otherwise. A few afternoons later Ellen witnessed an accident in Regent-st., the victim being Miss Wilchester. A cab had knocked her down and she was badly bruised, if not seriously injured.

Ellen, recognising her instantly, hastened forward and offered to escort her home to the hotel where she was staying, an offer gladly accepted, not by Violet herself, who was too dazed to understand much of what was going on, but by a doctor who had stepped forward from the crowd.

Ellen remained in an adjoining room whilst Miss Wilchester's injuries were examined, and whilst standing there, waiting for the doctor's report, her eyes fell upon some photographs spread about the room, evidently Miss Wilchester's own possessions.

To her surprise one of these portraits was of herself—the companion to which she had in her own room—herself as a child. She was struck with bewilderment at finding it here, and, moving a step nearer to be sure there was no mistake, she took it up in her hands, and whether she was rough in her touch she could not say, but the frame—an old wooden frame, simple in design—fell to pieces in her hands, and the photograph slipped on the carpet.

It fell face downwards, and in picking it up her eyes took in the few words that were written behind it in bold characters—to be read in one glance,

"My own little daughter—aged six."

Ellen stared at the words; then, in a flash, she understood. This was her mother—not dead as had been told her, and she had believed. A wave of tenderness swept over her. Her mother!

The doctor came into the room at that moment.

"Miss Wilchester is not very much hurt, I am happy to say. She has quite regained her senses, and thanks you for your kindness, but desires you will not stay. May I see you into a cab?"

But Ellen shook her head. Her face was white, but something of her mother's resolution was visible in its expression.

"I am going to stay here," she replied; then, with a bow to the mystified doctor, she passed into the room beyond.

* * * * *

"But, sir, listen, I beg of you. There can be no question of deception in the matter. Ellen had always supposed that her mother was dead. The truth was revealed to her by chance."

Harvey Black's features were set in a stern, forbidding mask. His cold grey eyes were sceptical and condemning. He shook his head slowly.

"If you were not a fool in love," he said, "you would recognise how improbable this story is. At any rate, now that it has reached me you know my mind. I withdraw my consent to any engagement between yourself and Ellen. I shall never countenance your marriage with the daughter of an actress. Come"—for a moment he rested a hand upon the young man's shoulder—"can't you forget this girl? Go abroad. You can travel. New scenes, fresh faces, perhaps fresh attractions. The heart of youth doesn't remain broken very long."

"You are unfair, unjust," he broke out passionately. "It is nothing but prejudice that makes you discountenance my engagement."

"Accuse me of being ungenerous as well," retorted Harvey Black, in icy tones. "Add that to the catalogue of my shortcomings."

The young man turned pale and winced as though he had received an unexpected blow. The light of anger died swiftly from his eyes; his head dropped.

Alas, tell me that I am ungrateful, sir—that is what you mean!"

"All I ask is your obedience in this one thing."

"But, sir, I cannot."

"Then you are prepared to give up everything—the inheritance that one day would be yours?"

"All the treasure of the world would be valueless to me if by gaining it I lost Ellen. Ah, sir, you cannot know what it means when a man's every hope is fixed upon one woman."

Harvey Black's face changed—a look of keen and vivid emotion swept across it—and he laughed scornfully, bitterly.

"You—a boy—could you tutor me, tell me love's meaning?" he replied, in a voice so altered that Cecil was amazed. "Complete your own education in such matters, and then you may presume to prate to others about love, but don't imagine that your callow love affair is the only romance the world has ever known."

His strong, dogged face was flushed with passion, and light seemed to blaze from his eyes. But what emotion, whether regret or scorn or sorrow, possessed him, Cecil Wynwood could not tell.

But Harvey Black at once relapsed into his usual composed self, and dismissed Cecil, who immediately made his way to where Ellen was awaiting him in her mother's home, for she had refused to live elsewhere after the discovery she had made; and the mutual love between these two, the mutual sympathy, was a bond which united them more closely every day and completely shattered Bannister's dismal prophecy that dissension and dislike must inevitably follow such a revelation, though he had been right so far as Harvey Black was concerned.

Ellen read in Cecil's features what the latter's decision was. Her lips quivered with a moment's pain, then she smiled bravely.

"You need not tell me," she whispered, "but did you implore him not to be hard upon us? Did you say that we love each other so much—so much?"

He nodded, silent for a moment; then he drew her to him.

"Sweetheart, my dearest," he said, "I will never give you up. Let us pledge to one another in this moment that we will be true—true to the end of life."

"Cecil, I will marry no one else," she said, in low, unfaltering tones. "I have given you my heart. I shall never ask for it back."

"That is the gift that will be my talisman in distant lands, Ellen. I shall go abroad, to some place where men without fortunes may find one, if Fate is kind to them—wealth that they can bring back to the women they have left in loneliness—the woman they love."

Vi Wilchester gazed through the open window out at the sparkling sea beyond. She was unusually thoughtful. Indeed, her mind was engaged in deciding a question that had remained unsettled for three months.

At the conclusion of her own engagements she had taken farewell of the stage, to the variety manager's despair, for from her first appearance in London she had captured the public. But Vi had given it all up—the glitter, the applause, the excitement—not without a pang, but she had known that Ellen secretly desired it, and that was sufficient for the mother who adored her.

But now there was one other sacrifice which she was asking herself whether she ought not to make—a sacrifice harder even than the first, for it meant forcing herself upon one whom she imagined believed her dead, the reopening of a bitter chapter from the past upon which she never dared let her thoughts dwell.

Ellen had tenderly kept from her mother the true reason of Harvey Black's withdrawal of his consent, but Vi was not to be deceived, and knew herself to be the obstacle, for had not Bannister warned her that it would be so?

She had secretly hoped that Ellen's love might be no more than a girl's dream, that she might soon be resigned to forget. If that had ended the affair it would have gone well with her own wishes. But she saw that Ellen was a girl who would remain true to one love for all her life, and now she determined that the way should be made smooth for her.

She drew a letter towards her, and read its contents through with a certain deliberation. Then, placing it down on a desk before her, she penned an answer to it, a few brief lines:—

Dear Sir,—I am tempted to accept your offer to make a reappearance in a forthcoming provincial tour. Kindly have placed on bills and programmes my own name in brackets beneath my professional one, as below.—Yours truly, Violet Wilchester (Mrs. Harvey Black).

"That should prove an effective retaliation if he is obdurate," she said to herself. She locked the letter in a drawer and, going down to the telephone, ordered a motor car to call for her in twenty minutes. Then she went to her wardrobe and stood before the open door considering. She looked no more than a girl—her face unlined, her eyes full of animation and light. But she was grave a moment later, and was sighing when she went down the stairs.

Half an hour after she was stealing through the garden of a house a dozen miles distant—Harvey Black's country mansion. She wanted to surprise him—to appear like an apparition. The garden was deserted; a sense of peace rested over everything; but it had no influence upon Vi Wilchester. She was here to declare war—and she threw back her head with a characteristic movement.

She peered into the open windows, and came upon the man she sought at last. She had expected that his appearance would be that of an implacable, cold, forbidding creature; but, as it was, he looked merely worn and broken.

She spoke his name softly, and he glanced up from his dejected attitude with a start. His eyes were caught and fixed by the vision which stood there, and he remained for a moment motionless, rigid, as if afraid to break the spell that had brought it there. In silence husband and wife faced one another after their lives had been parted for ten long years.

A soft bloom had come suddenly into Violet's face; she could feel the flush there. The old hardness of manner had dropped away from her, she felt shy, timid, young again, a girl standing in the presence of her chosen mate; and her heart—what was wrong with it that it should beat so wildly?

"Vi!" His voice thrilled as he spoke the word. He stood now alert, attentive, the furrows faded from his face, the hard lines softened. Vi—his laughter-loving, winsome Vi, wife of his youth, love of his life—was here before him. Somehow in another moment the woman who had come prepared to find a man of adamant found herself resting contentedly in her husband's arms. A few words—words that should have been spoken long ago—cleared up the terrible misunderstanding that had parted them—jealousy on one side, jealousy that is as cruel as the grave—and on his absorption in work that to Vi had seemed changed love.

"I heard you had gone upon the stage," he said, presently. "I tried to trace you; it was in vain. That is why I have always hated the stage, Vi—the stage which robbed me of you and my child."

"Then you will recall poor Cecil—you will give your gracious consent to his marriage with your own daughter!"

There was a touch of old mockery in her voice, but a new and wonderful tenderness in her eyes.

"It is wonderful," he said, smiling, "to think that Ellen is your child and mine. But Vi, you must place something to my credit as yet unknown to you. Before I knew or could guess that Ellen was anything to me I had relented; yes, only this very day, this golden day that has brought you back to me, I cabled to Cecil, telling him to return and marry Ellen as soon as he liked"

HIS SPECIALTY.

Among the many models employed by the famous French artist, Meissonier, there was for some years a certain Achille Durand, a man of fine physique and great endurance. Unfortunately a severe illness so weakened him that he was assured that he could no longer pursue his occupation, except at the immediate peril of his life.

At first he was in despair. But his noble proportions, natural grace, and continued to secure him so many engagements for restful poses that he saw hope that he might still earn his subsistence in his old profession. He did indeed succeed in doing so; but it was needful that he should neglect no opportunities. Newcomers to the artistic colony he promptly called upon.

"Pardon, monsieur," he would say politely on entering a studio. "My name is Durand—Achille Durand, at your service. If monsieur requires a model—but I will not deceive monsieur; my field is limited. For figures in action—no; for a standing pose—alas! no. But I can with conscience recommend myself for figures in repose.

"Monsieur Meissonier has painted me many times. Monsieur will find me excellent in a chair, wearing an expression either pensive or animated, also reclining gracefully or at full length.

"In particular I comprehend more than any other man in my profession how to differentiate artistically between slumber and death. Monsieur will find me satisfactory as a sleeper, but for a wounded man or a dead man I am truly admirable.

"I am to be found among the slain in all Monsieur Meissonier's most famous battle pieces. I assure monsieur that in this direction I am unapproachable; it is my specialty."

OVER AND OVER AGAIN.

Over and over again, no matter which way I turn,
I always find in the Book of Life some lessons I have to learn.
I must take my turn at the mill, I must grind out the golden grain,
I must work at my task with a resolute will over and over again.

We cannot measure the need of even the tiniest flower,
Nor check the flow of the golden sands that run through a single hour;
But the morning dew must fall, and the sun and the summer rain
Must do their part and perform it all over and over again.

Over and over again the brook through the meadow flows,
Over and over again the pond'rous mill-wheel goes;
Once doing will not suffice, though doing be not in vain;
And a blessing failing us once or twice may come if we try again.

The path that has once been trod is never so rough to the foot;
And the lesson we once have learned is never so hard to repeat.
Though sorrowful tears may fall, and the heart to its depth be driven
With storm and tempest, we need them all to render us meet for Heaven.

The Only Way.

The bell rang three times, and the man at the deck hastily reached for a flannel bandage. This he put round his neck. Then he arranged a sling, in which he put one arm, disarranged his hair, drew down the corners of his mouth, got out of his chair, and painfully limped towards the door.

"Mr. Jones?" inquired the well-dressed caller who opened it at that moment.

The man with the bandage half-suppressed a groan.

"Yes, that's my name. What can I do for you?"

"You appear to be suffering," said the intelligent caller.

"Suffering!" returned the other. "Do you think I'm doing this for fun? But what is your business, sir?"

"Er—pardon me," stammered the caller, "I think I'll drop in some other time—oh!"

"It's some trouble," soliloquised the man with the bandage, as he removed the paraphernalia and returned to his desk. "But it is really the quickest way to get rid of these life insurance agents. That man will never trouble me again."

[illegible]

It is not abundance that makes wealth, but economy.

FROM VARIOUS SOURCES

The Rev. Mr. Spouter had advertised for a butler, and the next morning a well-dressed, clean-shaven young man in black was ushered into his study. "Name, please?" asked the clergyman. "John James Juggins, sir." "Age?" "Twenty-eight." "What work have you been accustomed to?" "I am a solicitor, sir." The clergyman started. This was odd. However, as he knew, many were called in the law, and few chosen. "But," he said, "do you understand the conduct of a household?" "In a general way, yes," murmured the applicant, surprisedly. "Can you carve?" "Yes." "Wash glass and silver?" "I—er—think so," returned the now completely embarrassed young man. Just then the clergyman's wife entered. "Are you married?" was her first question. "That," said the young man, "was what I called to see your husband about, madam. I wanted to know if he could make it convenient to officiate at my wedding at noon next Thursday week."

A Scottish farmer propounds the following problem in the columns of an agricultural contemporary:—"A lad and lass come up here courtin'. She draps about hairpins in the grass. A coo eats some o' them, an' dees. Wha's tae pey?" We did not know that "drappin'" hairpins was necessarily incidental to hillside courting, but our farmer friend speaks, no doubt, both from experience and observation, and in the absence of authoritative contradiction we suppose we must accept his conclusion.

A lady journalist tells the following story anent mixed bathing:—A friend of hers, who does the greatest credit to her dressmaker in the matter of showing off her costumes, determined to take some swimming lessons in swimming from the local swimming master at one of our small seaside places. She consulted this worthy on two or three occasions as to the probability of her success in learning the art; and he at last persuaded her to make the experiment. Accordingly she purchased a series of tickets and entrusted herself to his care. On the first occasion everything passed off satisfactorily; but on the second, in the middle of the lesson, the worthy master, after holding up our friend, and showing her how to make the stroke, remarked: "Lor, miss, when I sees yer walking down the Esplanade I thought to myself what a fine young woman yer was, but when I gets yer in the water, why, bless me, there ain't nothing of yer!"

Madame Melba promises to become an energetic advertising medium for Australia. "Do you know," she says, "I intend during this trip to write a series of articles on Australia for English and American publications. People of other lands have no idea of the possibilities of this great country." That is kind, but if Melba is really desirous of pushing Australia ahead (remarks a "Punch" contributor), she should write songs about the Commonwealth, not articles, and she should sing them herself in the great centres of civilisation. Something like this, for instance, sung before the crowned heads of Europe, would help us immensely:—

Australia, Australia, fair land of my birth,
No clime in creation can equal thy worth,
No earth can produce with thy opulent ease
Such delicious potatoes, such beautiful peas.
No country can show us more exquisite views,
Or turn out such a number of fine kangaroos,
Whose skins, by the way, are unequalled for shoes.
Chorus—
From the north to the south,
From the east to the west,
Should acclaim every mouth
That thy wine is the best.
All should gaily declare
That thy fruits are most sweet,
Thy girls tender and fair,
Like thy excellent meat.
Australia, Australia, wherever I be
'Tis thy butter alone that will satisfy me,
Thy cheese is the best, and thy rich golden wheat
Makes the one kind of bread I am happy to eat.
Go, emigrant, seek her, and fill up your purse,
There the willing producer can meet no reverse.
Go you further or nearer, you're bound to fare worse!
Chorus—
From the north to the south, etc.

A story is going about of the experiences of Blank, a pushing young man, in his dealings with a certain astute but urbane Minister of the Crown. The pushing young man was out after a concession, or a billet, or a grab of some kind, of considerable advantage to himself, and he wanted to talk the Minister over. He was received most kindly, and the Minister showed himself quite interested, and most courteous. The pusher explained the position, and waxed eloquent in support of his demand, and the Minister followed him with every appearance of sympathy, and with trifling expressions of encouragement and appreciation. Blank the Pusher thought he was all right, the scheme was going beautifully, and presently when the Minister was called from the room for a moment, he stole quickly across the floor to glance at a note the Minister had made. Here is what he read: "This Mr. Blank is a humbug!"

"I want you to paint a portrait of my wife," said the wealthy but mean man. "I want to give it to her for a birthday present; but I want you to paint the head in oil and the dress in water-color. "Why, what's the object of that?" replied the distinguished artist. "Oh, well, you see, when the fashion changes you can easily alter the dress, and the portrait will be always up to date. Then I shan't have to go to the expense of fresh sittings."

The steamer was on the point of starting, and the majority of the passengers were lined up at the deck-rail. Suddenly one of them espied a cyclist in the distance, and it soon became evident that he was doing his level best to catch the boat. Already the sailor's hands were on the gangway, and the cyclist's chances looked small indeed, causing a sportive passenger to offer to wage a sovereign to a shilling that he would miss it. The offer was taken, and at once the deck became a scene of wild excitement. "He'll miss it!" "No, he'll just do it!" "Come on!" "He won't do it!" "Yes, he will—he's done it! Hurrah!" The cyclist arrived, sprang off his machine, and scrambled up the one gang-way left. "Cast off!" he cried. It was the captain, and the boat would have had to wait for him in any case.

RECORD "MOVING JOBS."

How Towns Are Built Up.

Battersea—"John Burns' borough—will shortly be the scene of the biggest "moving job" in London's history.

After being postponed time after time during several years past, it is now definitely announced that the long-contemplated removal of the L. and S.W.R. locomotive engineering works from Nine Elms to Eastleigh, seventy miles away in Hampshire, is to take place within the next few months.

About 10,000 people, it is estimated, will take part in the exodus, of whom about 2000 will be actual employes of the company. Their wives, families, and dependants are reckoned at between 5000 and 6000, the balance being made up of tradespeople and others who have announced their intention of joining in the migration.

A somewhat similar happening took place some years ago when the North-Western railway determined to make Wolverton, in Bucks, the Crewe of its system. In a single day the place was transformed from a sleepy village into a bustling industrial town.

When Andrew Carnegie decided to concentrate all his steel works at Homestead, he caused an entire town to rise in a few weeks by the magic of his millions; then, when all was ready, he moved in 8000 workmen and their families—30,000 souls in all—in less than forty-eight hours.

The record "moving job" for the whole world, however, took place when the brand-new Indian city of Jeypore was first occupied. The story is told in full by Sir Frederick Treves in "The Other Side of the Lantern," and occupies several pages. Suffice it to say here that between dawn and sunset of one day some 50,000 persons, with all their cattle, baggage, and household effects, migrated from Amber, the ancient capital, into Jeypore, the modern one.

A MEAN MARQUIS.

Seeks a Cheap Cure.

A famous French surgeon, M. Velpeau, was visited one day at his house during the consultation hour by a marquis renowned for his closeness.

Velpeau informed the marquis that an operation was urgent and that the fee would amount to four thousand francs. At this the marquis made a wry face and left.

A fortnight later Doctor Velpeau while making his rounds in the Hospital de la Charite, was attracted by a face that seemed familiar to him. In answer to his inquiry he learned that the patient was a footman in the service of a nobleman in the Faubourg Saint Germain. The surgeon found that his case resembled in every particular the somewhat unusual one for which the marquis had consulted him a fortnight previously. He refrained, however, from making any comments. Three weeks after the operation, when the patient was about to be discharged, Doctor Velpeau called him aside.

"Monsieur," he said, "I am extremely flattered and pleased to have been able to cure you. There is, however, a small formality; you will have to give me a cheque for ten thousand francs on behalf of the public charity bureau of your district. If you refuse, all Paris will know to-morrow that the Marquis de D—— adopted the disguise of a footman in order to secure free treatment at this hospital."

The Marquis paid.

DAMPNESS AND DISEASE.

The subject of dampness in its bearing on health does not seem to have received serious, detailed study, or, if it has, says the "Lancet," very little light has been thrown on the exact way in which dampness acts as an etiological factor in disease. It is easy enough to suggest why dampness should lower the resistance of the human body to disease, but why in particular it appears to encourage such ailments as rheumatism, neuralgia, and diseases of the respiratory tract is not so apparent.

The risks attending the sleeping in a damp bed can be understood, because when clothing is damp its function—viz., that of insulation—ceases, and it no longer provides against the body losing its heat, and so a chill is engendered, and a chill may bring almost any disease in its train, for a chill is nothing but a weakened resistance.

Does the dampness of the air or of the soil act in a similar way? It is probable, for dampness permeates almost all materials, and therefore life in a damp atmosphere means a body exposed to an undue loss of that animal heat which is necessary to keep the organism strong and vigorous.

Conversely, a dry air, though intensely cold, is perfectly healthy so long as the individual protects or conserves his calorific status by wearing suitable, non-conducting clothing. The analogue of the electric current is suggested. In dry countries the electric wires are frequently bare, requiring no insulation; whereas in damp places the leakage of current would be considerable if the wires were not well covered with insulating material. There are those who believe, further, that when dampness emanates from the soil it may carry with it disease-producing entities, and, moreover, a moist environment is more congenial than a dry one to the growth and development of micro-organisms. Indeed, when exposed long enough to very dry air some organisms may be destroyed. Dampness implies stagnation, a gloom in which evil things are lifted from the soil and kept suspended and brought within reach of the human organism.

It is thus not difficult to generalise about dampness in its relation to disease, but so far its influences have not been susceptible of really correct measurement. That it is associated with disease is evident from the instances of health being improved when the individual is removed from a damp to a dry locality.

THE MOTORIST'S "EXAM."

What is an automobile?—It is an infernal machine used by the classes for dealing death to the masses.

Whence is its name derived?—From Auto and Mob. Hence an automobilist ought to be mobbed.

What is the difference between an automobile and a bunch of violets?—The smell.

What is an auto-race?—A race of men who drive automobiles.

What do they look like?—Like the wild men of Borneo disguised as Esquimaux.

What is the difference between an automobile and Beau Brummel?—Beau Brummel was a lady-killer, but an automobile will kill anybody.

What follows the automobile?—The inquest.

How John Got Out Of It.

"John, dear, when you come home, I will get you to help me to beat the carpet," said Mrs. Newbride, one morning back in the summer, as her husband was leaving for town.

But why John was not having any. "It's utterly impossible, my dear. You'll ruin it," he expostulated.

"Ruin it!" exclaimed the wife. "What do you mean?"

"Why, don't you remember when we bought it it was specially marked, 'Not to be beaten'? That kind of carpet is only intended to be brushed."

And he says the poor dear believed him.

VARIETIES.

Father (at breakfast): Emily, that lover of yours is a staid young man, isn't he?

Emily (blushingly): What makes you think so, pa?

Father: Because he stayed until the clock struck one this morning.

There isn't any music for a good farmer in a rattling waggon. He knows every time he drives such a vehicle that he is just shaking the money out of his own pocket. Tighten things up, and save the wear and tear on the waggon, and on your own nerves at the same time.

"Why," said the irate husband, "do you put the hair of another woman on your head?"

"Why," retorted his better half, "do you wear the skin of another calf on your hands?"

Kind Lady: How did you become so lame?

Tramp: Over-exertion, mum.

Lady: Indeed! In what way?

Tramp: Movin' on every time a policeman tole me to.

Manager: We must put a great deal of realism into this forest scene. Can you get someone to growl

THE PITFALL

By SIR WILLIAM MAGNAY, Bart., Author of "The Master Spirit," "The Red Chancellor," "A Prince of Lovers," etc.

Published by Arrangement with Ward, Lock & Co. Ltd., Melb. & Lon.

CHAPTER XXVI.

The Baron's Amazement.

As the three took their way back by the narrow path through the cliffs they discussed the probable explanation of that afternoon's horrible incidents. Huberta first of all gave an account of her seizure, which was simple enough.

"I was strolling along the shore," she related, "being rather tired of the grubbing work in the ravine, when suddenly that big, ferocious-looking islander came down to the beach behind me, and began to follow me. I did not much like this, especially as I realised that he was between me and our party; however, I kept walking slowly on and took no further notice of him. Presently, having gone, as I thought, far enough for safety, I turned towards the ruins. The man and I soon met, and something told me as he drew near that he was going to accost me. I was not mistaken. He took off his hat, made a low bow, and asked me in French whether I had seen the wonderful cave which was just a little farther along the shore. He was, for such a ruffian, very polite, and I replied in the same tone that I would go and see it another day.

"Ah, but I should go now," he urged with a detestable grin. "The great seigneur, Rassim Bey Effendi, was there, and had ordered him, his servant in all things, to conduct me thither.

"This, as you may imagine, was scarcely calculated to reassure me. Supposing his story were true, Rassim Bey was not exactly the person I should desire to explore an out-of-the-way cave with. So I told the man, who, I was now sure, meant mischief, that he might convey my regrets to the Bey and say I was too tired to visit the cave that day. With that I attempted to pass on, but the fellow barred the way.

"He was, he said, the humble slave of the great and powerful Rassim Bey, and he would not for his life's worth disobey him. The cave was but a little way off, and it was necessary that he should take me to it and at once, seeing that the Bey was waiting for us, and was, as I might know, an impatient man.

"I had not a doubt of that; at the same time, having no scruples about disobeying him, I was determined not to go if I could help it. Accordingly I did my best to convey to the man my indifference to Rassim's wishes and my resolve to continue my way back. As soon, however, as I attempted to put this into practice the ruffian seized my arm and gave a whistle, at which several more men sprang out from behind the rocks and rushed down the beach to us.

"At a sign from the big man they took hold of me and began to drag me along. I screamed out for help as loudly as I could, hoping some of you might hear me, upon which the big leader drew a dagger and threatened to stab me if I called out.

"Pushing and dragging, they hurried me along, till at length I began to be horribly frightened. After going through the narrow gorge, they stopped and bandaged my eyes, the leader assuring me that the cave where Rassim awaited me was close at hand.

"The rest you know. My astonishment and delight when I found myself free to uncover my eyes and saw you two friends in front of me were more than I can express. It seemed almost like a practical joke."

"Rather a grim joke," Tilghman commented with a short, serious laugh. "At least for poor Rassim Bey."

"But, Mr. Tilghman, was he really killed?" Huberta asked shudderingly.

"No doubt about that," he replied gravely. "But of how or why he came by his death I have but the vaguest notion."

"I am so glad I did not see him," Huberta said. "These villainous islanders seem capable of anything. I suppose the poor man's death was a horrible act of treachery."

"No doubt about that," Tilghman agreed, with a significant glance at Dalray.

As they mounted the cliffs which ran between the shore and the ravine, de Gastard appeared hurrying towards them. He made concerned inquiries as to what had happened, protesting that the Professor was much alarmed by Huberta's long absence. The two men he began by treating with a show of annoyed indifference, addressing his questions pointedly to Huberta; but upon learning what had really happened he was, after a show of incredulous suspicion, forced to change his manner and acknowledge the service they had rendered.

"I do not understand it at all," he commented. "An outrage of this sort is, nowadays, at any rate, unknown in these quiet islands. But I fear the leading spirit of these natives is an evilly-disposed fellow, hence their corruption."

"There is," said Tilghman quietly, "evidently some evil influence at work here. The attempt to carry off Miss Chilworth was bad enough, but it owed its failure to a crime still more terrible."

"What do you mean?" the Baron asked.

"The discovery of the murdered body of Rassim Bey."

Tilghman spoke the words quietly, trying in their effect to read the man before him. De Gastard gave a great start of horrified surprise. Then his expression changed to a smile of incredulity. "Rassim murdered? My dear Mr. Tilghman, you cannot seriously mean that. You must be mistaken."

"No," Tilghman replied gravely. "It is, unhappily, only too true. Both Dalray and I have seen the Bey's dead body."

The Baron's face began to work. "You are both certain of Rassim's identity?"

"Absolutely."

"This is terrible—unheard of," de Gastard cried excitedly. "I must go at once and inquire about it. Please lose no time in escorting Miss Chilworth to the harbor."

He spoke with a certain quick peremptoriness as men do under stress of worry or excitement. He moved away, then turned back. "Mr. Tilghman, you say you have a revolver. May I ask you to lend it to me in case of need? I will return it to you this evening."

Tilghman handed him the weapon, and with a parting nod, enjoining them to hurry back, the Baron set off in purposeful haste towards the scene of their late adventure.

CHAPTER XXVII.

A Visit from the Baron.

"One thing stands out as the result of what has just happened," Tilghman observed to his friend, as they sat smoking after dinner that evening. "A particularly awkward and unwelcome hindrance has been removed from the path of the Baron de Gastard."

"I see you think he had a hand in it," Dalray suggested.

"I should not be at all surprised," his friend replied with a short laugh. "Although in the state of things which obtains in these barely civilised parts one cannot be sure. Foul play is thought so little of. On the other hand, knowing what we know of the relations between the two men, I am inclined to think that if the news of Rassim's death had come really as a surprise to the Baron he would have betrayed some sign that it was not altogether unwelcome. As it was, there was nothing in his expression but horror, anger, and an affectation of incredulity which was not natural. He would have jumped eagerly at the news had he not been prepared for it."

Dalray nodded. "I see what you mean."

"Then again," Tilghman continued, "there cannot be a doubt but that the surprise and horror of those ruffians were genuine enough. The whole business is something of a mystery, but I am inclined to acquit the islanders of the murder."

"At any rate the kidnapping gang."

"Yes. And they are the worst of the population. The rest are peaceable shepherds and vine-dressers. No; in my mind the onus of proving innocence lies with the Baron."

As the words were uttered the man he spoke of was announced.

De Gastard came down the companion-way with a serious face, just brightened by an expression of confidence as to his welcome.

"First of all," he said, as he sat down, "let me return you your revolver, with many thanks. I am glad to say I had no occasion to avail myself of its protection."

He laid it on the table.

"I am sorry you should have given yourself the trouble of returning it, Baron, Tilghman began, when the visitor held up his hand protestingly. "I should have been sorry to have left you an hour longer than I could help without this very necessary means of defence," he said politely. "In these places one cannot tell what may happen, or how soon one may have to fight for one's life. At least that seems to be the lesson taught by the shocking event of this afternoon. And that brings me to the real object of my visit. I was anxious to discuss with you this most mysterious and terrible affair."

"I hope you can throw some light on it," Dalray observed.

The Baron shrugged. "Very little, I fear. But I will tell you all I have gathered. May one smoke?"

He opened a gold cigar-case, heraldically enamelled, and held it out to his hosts.

"Thank you, Baron. I think we prefer the humble pipe when afloat," Tilghman said tactfully. They lighted up, and their visitor proceeded:

"On leaving you I went along in the direction you had indicated, but I fear I should hardly have found the scene of the tragedy had I not fallen in with a native, one of the gang, no doubt, who piloted me to it. Yes; there was the ghastly evidence of the crime, and any hope I might have indulged in that you had been mistaken vanished at the sight. Poor Rassim—an excellent fellow, if we make allowances for certain national eccentricities—had been foully done to death. It was horrible to contemplate. Somehow, although one had known him but a few days, I felt as though I had lost an excellent friend. You will, perhaps, accuse me of exaggeration; but if you knew the Turks as I do you would have recognised the superiority of Rassim's character to that of the general run of his compatriots."

Tilghman bowed, as accepting the statement for what it was worth, and de Gastard continued, speaking with fluency and an easy handling of his subject:

"Well, the unfortunate Rassim was no more. Regrets were useless. Still, without anticipating any official inquiry, I felt I owed it to the memory of a charming companion to try to find out the cause and authors of his death."

"I hope you have succeeded," Tilghman observed coldly.

The Baron made a forward movement of the head. "There may be a clue, at least to the motive. Let me tell you. There was no one at the cave whom I could question. So I made my way across to the village, and there sought out a man named Ghalarski, whom I guessed to be the leader of the kidnapping gang you described. He is known as the chief of the more lawless spirits on the island, and has a somewhat evil reputation. With some difficulty I got hold of the fellow, and it is fortunate that, for some reason or other, he rather holds me in awe. Well, to cut a long story short, I succeeded in frightening him into confessing all he knew of the affair. And I think when you hear it you will agree with me that he told a remarkable story.

His two listeners kept a judicial silence, curious to hear what the tale would be.

"It, at all events," continued de Gastard, "accounts for the kidnapping business and its abrupt abandonment. It appears that Rassim had, as was obvious to us all, conceived a violent admiration for Miss Chilworth. Naturally she was inclined to laugh at his somewhat fervent advances; at any rate, she did not take them seriously.

"Poor Rassim, piqued at this, appears to have resolved to fall back upon the rude methods of his country, and had actually engaged Ghalarski to bring some of his fellow-ruffians and carry off the lady for him. The plan, but for its outrageous nature and tragic termination would be amusing, smacking as it does of the comic opera stage. It was arranged that the gang should keep Miss Chilworth prisoner in the recesses of that great cave until nightfall. She was then to be taken on board a kaik and conveyed to one of the neighboring islands where, after a time, Rassim was to appear in all the might of his authority and act the part of rescuer. There! What do you think of that little plot?"

He stopped and resumed his cigar, eyeing them with expectant keenness.

"I can quite believe it," Dalray answered. "it certainly fits in with what actually happened."

"At the same time," Tilghman added, "it goes no way towards accounting for Rassim's death."

The Baron threw out his hands. "Ah, there we are, if not quite at a loss, reduced to a theory, which, however, I venture to believe will prove to be correct. And if so, you are quite right, Mr. Tilghman, in suggesting that the attempted kidnapping has nothing whatever to do with Rassim's death. Even Ghalarski cannot throw any light upon that. I think, however, we can."

"We?" Tilghman repeated, as de Gastard paused with his eyes expectantly upon them.

"Surely," he said at length, as though in suave deprecation of their dulness. "We three were witnesses, were we not, of the absurd, but at the same time serious, quarrel between poor Rassim and the Greek dealer, Kiliotis. That Rassim was high-handed, even brutally so, I took the liberty of telling him at the time. I also hinted that he was more, rash and short-sighted, that is, to rouse the revengeful enmity of one of a vindictive race like the Greeks. He laughed at me, but I fear I was right. You heard Kiliotis threaten him?"

"Yes," Tilghman answered simply.

"You suspect the Greek?" Dalray asked.

De Gastard shrugged. "Can one help it? After all, it is no business of ours; yet one cannot help suspecting him for two reasons. On account of his threats and the provocation he received, while the other facts against him is that he has disappeared."

"Kiliotis?" Tilghman asked.

De Gastard nodded gravely. "He has left the island secretly, not a very difficult thing to do, with kaiks to be hired and no questions asked." He threw out his arms with a deprecating shrug. "I merely state the facts; it is for you to draw your own conclusions."

"Naturally," Tilghman murmured with a subtle touch of sarcasm.

"After all," de Gastard proceeded, ignoring his listeners' rather marked reserve, "the departure of Kiliotis may be nothing beyond a coincidence. He would naturally come to the conclusion that with the weight of the Bey's authority and muscle, against him, he was wasting his time here. There is another possible solution of the mystery."

"Yes?" said Tilghman. "What is that?"

"He may," the Baron observed, in a tone which was hardly designed to carry conviction, "have fallen a victim to the knife of one of these ruffian islanders. Ghalarski told me that the Bey's presence on the island had been interpreted by some as a visit of inspection—to put it plainly, that he came here as a spy upon their doings and mode of life. If that be the case, it is easy to imagine ill-feeling. I myself am well aware of the hatred these practically free islanders have for the badge of officialdom and authority. That is all I have to suggest. We know the object of the poor fellow's visit was, far from spying, the same as our own—research. If he meant to spy upon anybody it was upon us, certainly not the natives. But they are ignorant and brutal, and, with a fixed idea in their heads, would think little of killing even a man in authority. You saw more than I did. On that chance I came here."

He leaned back in his chair, waiting for a suggestion from their side.

Tilghman realised that the man's real object in his visit was to get an idea of what he and Dalray thought of the business, to see if they held any undesirable theory. His reply was guarded. "I see no good reason beyond its tainted source to doubt Ghalarski's story. But even unscrupulous ruffians such as he may speak the truth sometimes—when it is clearly to their interest to do so. As to Rassim's assassination, I have no theory to put forward. All I can say is that it is clear to both Dalray and myself that it genuinely took the kidnappers by surprise. Their dismay was certainly not counterfeited."

"You feel sure of that?" de Gastard demanded keenly.

"Absolutely," Dalray corroborated.

"I am glad to find you so positive," the Baron said coolly. "Since it coincides with my own idea, with my conviction that Ghalarski was, for the moment, speaking the truth."

"At the same time," Tilghman continued, "it is somewhat odd, is it not, that if the deed were perpetrated by one of the evil-disposed islanders that some at least of the other scoundrels did not know of it."

"That is the natural and reasonable conclusion," de Gastard observed reflectively; "and it rather sends us back to the theory of Kiliotis' guilt. Of course, it may be," he added, as though weighing the pros and cons impartially, "that Ghalarski knows more than he chose to tell me."

"Then why," argued Tilghman, "was he thrown into such a state of abject fear and demoralisation?"

The Baron shrugged. "There, again, we are thrown back upon the other theory which after all, seems the more workable."

"And," observed Tilghman, "the more plausible."

De Gastard glanced at him sharply. There was in Tilghman's speech and manner a suggestion of incredulity, of veiled antagonism which he could not, if, indeed, he cared to, wholly disguise. Dalray, watching the Baron, was sure he recognised it and would lay his plans accordingly. But on the surface de Gastard was quite suave and cordial.

"I quite agree with you," he replied coolly. "And I must say the sooner the mystery of poor Rassim's death is cleared up and the guilt brought home to the actual perpetrator the better it will be for us all. It is a terrible affair to have happened during our sojourn here. There is perhaps not even a moral reason for it, but somehow one feels a responsibility in the matter, as though poor Rassim had been our guest." He rose. "I fear to-day's events have spoilt and must cut short our stay. You will not be surprised to hear that Miss Chilworth is horribly upset, and will probably remain on board the yacht for the rest of the time we are here. Our nerves are stronger, and we may permit ourselves to finish off our work at the ruins, at any rate, for the present. To-morrow the Professor and I will get together our finds for shipment. Perhaps you will join us and lighten our work. And, by the way"—he turned at the foot of the companion—"I—we all—shall be so glad to see you both on the Euphrosyne whenever you care to pay me the honor of a visit."

Without waiting for a reply, he bowed to each of them, and with a pleasant "Good-night," went lightly up the companion.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

The Face in the Tower.

"Apart from poor Rassim's fate, I am sorry that things have turned out in this fashion," Tilghman said as the two friends sat discussing the situation. "It puts an end to the expedition, and incidentally deprives us of an excuse for watching de Gastard's game. He will now be glad to steam away with the Chilworths, and I'm afraid we may say good-bye to them."

"Can't we do something to bring matters to a crisis?" Dalray asked gloomily.

"It seems to me they are at one now," Tilghman returned. "It is difficult to see what more we can do."

"And so," his companion said bitterly, "we must stand by and see this lovely girl coerced and terrorised into a marriage with a plausible scoundrel who, we are justified in believing, is guilty of at least, one murder, if not three."

"I admit it is not pleasant to contemplate," Tilghman replied. "But unless we can get the tangible proof I have been hoping for, I don't see what action we can take. How can we interfere in the match? The fellow is rich and a Baron, of sorts; the world would say the girl was lucky. And with the father on his side——"

Dalray started up. "I can't bear to think of it," he exclaimed. "The fact that she hates and fears the man is bad enough; but when one adds his real character as we know it, the idea of marriage is horrible—horrible."

* * * * *

Next morning they went to the ruins as usual, and found Professor Chilworth busily engaged in getting together the results, more or less fragmentary, of their expedition. The Baron was not to be seen.

"This is a most unfortunate business," the Professor said feelingly. "Apart from the terrible nature of the affair, it has the effect of cutting short our work just when we had taken it to a most interesting and promising stage. But it must be so. I fear the effect on my daughter's nerves if we stay here much longer."

"Miss Chilworth must naturally be much upset by her unpleasant experience of yesterday," Dalray suggested.

"Yes. The Baron is quite concerned about her. She remains on the yacht to-day. I am inclined to think it is a mistake to bring a girl on an expedition of this sort."

"You are leaving?"

"Almost immediately, I regret to say. I am sorry for the Baron, but he insists on our taking our departure. I even went so far as to anticipate your kind offices, and suggested that if he would remain, Huberta and I might ask you to take us part of the way home——"

"We should, of course, be only too delighted to place our yacht at your disposal, Professor."

"You are very kind. I was sure of it. But the Baron would not hear of such a thing. He is called by important business to Paris, he says, and so he takes us home, overland from Marseilles."

"Is the Baron here to-day?" Tilghman asked.

"He is working in the galleries." The Professor pointed towards the entrance. "Making a final effort to unearth a prize before we go."

It was some time before Baron de Gastard appeared, and when he did it was without indication that his work had been successful. But he was very agreeable, expressed many regrets that their pleasant little party had to be broken up, and hopes that they might meet again on a similar expedition; all of which expressions Tilghman and Dalray accepted at what they felt to be their true value. For the rest they worked all day pretty hard at excavating, the two young Englishmen hoping that they might find something of importance which might delay their departure.

"I tell you what it is, Leslie," Dalray said that evening, "I intend by hook or by crook to see Huberta Chilworth before the Euphrosyne leaves, which is to be the day after to-morrow. Things have turned out unfortunately, but I am not going to abandon the girl to the Baron's mercies, even if I have to do something outside the code."

"It is not," observed Tilghman, "a pleasant thing to push ourselves in where we are not wanted, but I think we must follow them up."

"I am glad to hear you say so," Dalray replied heartily. "For I have already made up my mind to do it."

Accordingly in pursuance of his resolve to get speech with Huberta, Dalray, next day, taking his opportunity when the Baron was underground, slipped back to the quay and pulled off to the Euphrosyne. He hailed her and sent a message to Miss Chilworth asking her to come for a short row with him in the harbor. The man whom he addressed replied in a rather surly tone that Miss Chilworth was not very well, she was resting, and not to be disturbed. Dalray was insistent, saying he had come from Professor Chilworth and must see the lady. The man was still demurring, and Dalray wondering how he should attain his object when Huberta appeared on deck and declared herself ready and delighted to go for the proposed row. The steward now came hastily forward and a colloquy ensued in which Dalray caught the words, "the Baron's orders," but Huberta spiritedly put the man's objections aside and descended to the waiting boat.

Dalray, noting her flushed face and almost feverish eagerness to get away from the yacht, said nothing, however, except a few commonplaces until he had rowed some distance.

"It is good of you to come out like this," he said presently. "I felt you must be horribly moped there, and so determined to ask you."

She gave him a glance in which there was relief as well as gratitude. "I am so glad you came," she replied in a tone of such significance that it sent a thrill of apprehension through him.

"Has—is anything wrong?" he asked.

Huberta smiled with a bitterness he hated to see. "Only what I might have expected," she answered.

"The Baron——?"

She nodded. "Yes, the Baron. He has made the adventure of the other day an excuse for renewing his proposal, and almost insisting that I shall marry him."

Dalray looked grave. "How does he arrive at that conclusion?" he asked.

"Oh, I hardly know," she answered, with a rather hopeless shrug. "His arguments are plausible enough, but they do not convince me. And if they did——"

She stopped. "If they did——?" he suggested.

"They would not make me care for him," she continued. "They would not change my opinion of him, would not banish my fear."

"But, Miss Chilworth, why should you marry him?"

"He says I need a stronger protector than my father, who knows little of the world and nothing of its villainies. That he and my father are going to continue their researches every year, and that it will be impossible for me to accompany them as I am, without attracting undesirable admirers, and running the risk of outrages such as that which Rassim planned. That as the Baroness de Gastard I should be quite safe; he would see to that. It would be more proper, and so forth. I need not go through all the arguments with which he attacked me for quite two hours last night."

"He is taking you back to England?"

"Yes; he wants our marriage to take place in Paris on the way home."

"Absurd! Monstrous!" Dalray exclaimed.

Huberta shook her head. "It is hateful, but not so absurd as you think." She leaned forward with a look of helpless entreaty in her grey eyes. "Do you know, Mr. Dalray, I am terribly afraid he will force me into marriage with him."

"Oh, but he shall not," Dalray declared resolutely. "Have you no friends to whom you can appeal?"

She shook her head sadly. "None on whom I could count to interfere in an affair of this sort. You see, our wandering life has prevented my making any close friendships."

"I wish," said Dalray, emboldened by the crisis and the urgent need of his lovely companion, "I wish you would care to think that you had made one at last."

His meaning was not to be ignored. Huberta colored a little as she replied. "Have I not proved my recognition of your friendship?"

"Indeed, you have," he responded. Then went on impetuously: "Miss Chilworth, is it too much to ask you to recognise in it something more? Don't think I would be so unchivalrous as to take advantage of your distress. You may command my devotion, my life, without any idea of return. That is, if you feel you do not care for me. If you do not wish me to tell you how I love you, I will never speak a word of that again. Only, as you need a strong protector according to the Baron whom you dislike and fear, may I not offer myself in his place, not against imaginary persecutors, but to stand by your side by right against him who seeks to blast your life? Huberta, will you give me the right?"

She had been sitting half-turned away, looking at the rock with its surmounting tower under which they were gliding. As he paused for his answer, she let her eyes meet his, and he read in them not only the gratitude he had seen before, but love.

He leant forward and took her hand. "Huberta, my darling, you will be my wife?"

He caught a murmured "Yes," and in a thrill of delight raised to his lips the hand he held. "You are safe from this man now," he declared, with a joyful confidence that seemed to give her hope. "I have at last the right to speak plainly to your father, and make him realise the situation. I don't think you will marry the Baron in Paris, my own; although it is a very pretty scheme on his part."

He laughed. His words and manner seemed to reassure her.

"It is lovely out here," she said. "But I think we had better turn back."

They had drifted past the little headland, scarcely realising how far they had gone. With a fond caress, Dalray settled himself back and, pulling round, began to row towards the harbor.

"I believe you are still afraid of the Baron," he laughed, following Huberta's somewhat apprehensive glance towards the shore. "I don't suppose they have seen us, and even if they have——"

He stopped abruptly. They were passing again under the ruined tower which stood on the rock some three hundred yards out to sea. As he drew clear of it, talking in the confidence of his new-found happiness, he happened to glance up at the ruin. And he could have sworn that, from the narrow opening which had once been a window, a pair of fierce eyes glaring down at him met his own. Next moment they had vanished.

(To be continued.)

AN ARTIST'S CHARMED LIFE.

Mr. Alfred Pearse, the celebrated black-and-white artist, has probably executed as many drawings as any other living artist. He has had over 7000 published. He has without doubt met with more accidents than any one of them. In his earliest infancy, when he was being taken across the Channel by steamer, a sudden lurch jerked him out of his nurse's arms and sent him flying over the vessel's side. It was only the lucky intervention of a passenger, who caught him, that saved him from a watery grave. At the age of seven he was actually certified as dead by a doctor, whose verdict he disputed by an extraordinary recovery, and as a youth he had a narrow escape from an infuriated bull in Chilham Park.

As a young man he was seized by a madman who held him suspended over the well of a deep staircase, and on another occasion, when climbing at St. Moritz, he went careering down a slope towards a precipice with a 500 yards' drop and only managed to pull up within a few feet of the edge. When he accompanied the Prince and Princess of Wales on the Royal Colonial tour he was dangerously poisoned by the bite of a red spider.

While at sea in the Bight of Australia, he was informed as he lay in his bunk that there was no hope for the vessel, which was in a sinking condition. Mr. Pearse decided to stop where he was, and the next day, the ship having survived the storm, he was the only uninjured first-saloon passenger on board.

To give a brief summary of his chapter of accidents, which number over thirty, he has been nearly drowned three times, had concussion of the brain five times, thrown from the top of an omnibus four times, shot once, fallen down Beachy Head once, drugged once, certified as dead twice, between the train and platform once, injured by runaway horse once, run-down by motor-car and nearly killed once, blind for two days, and has had shoulder out of joint, legs and right arm paralysed, and left eye forced out of socket.

This does not by any means exhaust Mr. Pearse's list, and his doctors say that by all the laws of medical science he ought to be dead long ago.

COUNTING THE KAISER'S WAR-CHEST.

A curious task, typical of the petty thoroughness incidental to German army methods, has just been completed at Spandau, near Berlin.

This is the annual counting over, coin by coin, of the "Kriegschatz," or emergency war-chest fund of £6,000,000, which ever since the war of 1870-71 has been hoarded in a room in the Julius Tower of that supposedly impregnable fortress.

The sum forms part of the £200,000,000 indemnity extracted from France as the price of peace. Towards the close of each year it is carefully counted by a selected staff of non-commissioned officers. Their task occupies them a full week, starting on the Monday morning and finishing on the following Saturday night. During this period they are practically close prisoners, for they have to eat, sleep, and take what exercise they can within the steel-cased walls of the treasure-vault.

At each counting the money is found to lose through wear and tear some four ounces in weight, equivalent to about £14. This is carefully made up before the vault is closed for another year, in order that the sum total may always remain precisely the same.

Of course, the wastefulness involved in keeping this huge sum lying idle is obvious. If it had been allowed to grow at compound interest, for instance, from the commencement, it would by now have more than trebled itself. But up to the present none of the many proposals made by different parties in the Reichstag to invest it or to convert it to immediate use have succeeded.

Once, however, it came within an ace of being carried off by thieves. The prime mover in the audacious coup, which was of a semi-political character, was a man named Reinsdorf, and more than fifty others were implicated.

The plot was discovered in the nick of time, but Reinsdorf escaped, only, however, to be hanged later on for attempting to blow up with dynamite the national memorial at Rudesheim on the occasion of its unveiling by the Emperor.

A PLUCKY CAPTURE.

Mr. J. Russell Hawkins, of Richmond, U.S.A., tells an adventure once experienced by his uncle, Mr. Martin Hawkins, whilst fishing on the James River. The stream was well stocked with shad. In May they came up from the sea, and hundreds of people would assemble on the rocks in mid-stream along the falls and with dip-nets supply themselves with all they wanted. Mr. Hawkins was at his post watching for a catch when along came an immense sturgeon. It had stopped to rub its sides against the rock according to the habit of sturgeons, when Mr. Hawkins concluded that if he could only get his hands into the gills of the monster he might succeed in landing it. He crept to the side of the rock, stooped over, and began rubbing the sides of the fish near the tail, proceeding quietly towards the head, until at last the gills were reached. With a sudden thrust the hands were sent home to the very inner jaws of the fish, when it gave a lurch that jerked the fisherman from the rock. He fell astride the fish's back, but his hands were held as in a vice. For a moment all was surprise and interest; then both fish and rider sank in the deep, roaring waters of the flood. The spectators were aghast. They thought their friend was lost. But after a few moments fish and fisherman came to the surface about one hundred yards down the river, and remained at the surface long enough to breathe. A moment later they rose again, and then again and again, as the waters bore them away. They passed under Mayo's bridge, half a mile from the starting-point. People along the shore gave chase as best they could. In the meantime, the fish was being exhausted, and the rider, having discovered it, began trying to steer for a sand-bar, then a little way below them. This he reached successfully. And there, after a struggle, he dragged his trophy ashore on the Chesterfield side of the river, and on the side opposite the point of starting. Richmond was then a small town, and in a little while this strange adventure was known to every inhabitant. An ovation followed. The fish, which measured ten feet, and weighed three hundred pounds, was served up in a manner to suit every taste, and the following night was spent in high glee. This distinguished adventurer was ever afterwards known as Martin Hawkins, the sturgeon rider. He died in his seventy-third year at the residence of a friend, Daniel Burton, about ten miles west of Richmond.

Contractor to His Majesty.

"Now, then, youngster, I want my boots brushed," said the tall, stalwart cavalryman, placing his foot on the little bootblack's box.

The lad gazed at the huge top-boots for a moment, then, turning half round, shouted to a companion on the opposite side of the street:

"I say, Bill, come 'ere an' give us 'an 'elping 'and. I've got a bloomin' army contract."

THE HORSE

WOUNDS IN FARM HORSES.

There appears to be a good deal of ignorance as to the correct method of treating wounds and other injuries of a similar description, and it is with the object of endeavoring to help in this direction that the following remarks are offered, which are primarily intended for farmers and those in the bush in contact with animals who are mostly out of reach of professional assistance.

The keynote of success in dealing with every description of wound is cleanliness, and without this our efforts are often unavailing. No wound is so unimportant as to be looked upon as of no consequence, and the slightest scratch sometimes may lead to serious complications, ending, perhaps, in death itself. Simple precautions taken in time often prevent such things happening. The first thing to do in the case of a clean-cut wound on some muscular part of the body is to stop the bleeding, if excessive, but unless it is very great, and an important blood-vessel is severed, this need not bother us. In all cases, whether dirt can be seen adhering to the wound or not, it is advisable to wash it with an antiseptic. There are many such at present, such as carbolic acid (one part of acid to fifty of water), lysol, permanganate of potash, phenyle, etc. All are good. This often prevents trouble afterwards by helping to ward off infection of the exposed lacerated tissues caused by micro-organisms in the atmosphere, and which are ever ready to increase and multiply at our expense. A wound is the open door by which they enter our system in many instances. All trouble with wounds is now well known to be due to these small organisms, and antiseptics have the power of arresting the growth or of entirely destroying these organisms.

Punctured Wounds.

Punctured wounds are dangerous, such as a stab from a pitchfork, because they are difficult to clean out properly, and are liable to close up on the outside before the internal parts heal; and often on this account discharges from the wound are imprisoned which sooner or later cause trouble. A word of warning is, therefore, necessary in such cases, so that precautions are taken to see that the injury is thoroughly irrigated with some antiseptic before permitting the outside to heal up.

In bringing in the edges of wounds together, it is always as well to be careful to cut away as little of the skin as possible, as it does not reproduce itself, and ugly blemishes are left where the skin is removed.

Improper Applications.

The applications applied to wounds by ignorant persons are sometimes of an extraordinary description, and do more harm than good. Cow-dung, which is not mentioned in the pharmacopœia, finds great favor with some persons as an application to the foot in cases of injuries by nails penetrating the sole. Burnt leather is another firm and universal favorite, only second, I think, to cow-dung, and is further valued, according to some, for promoting the growth of hair.

A more improper remedy than cow-dung in the use of penetrating wounds of the foot could hardly be thought of, and burnt leather has no virtue in making the hair grow. If a poultice is necessary where the foot is concerned, linseed meal or bran, or marshmallows will be found much better and cleaner.

Then there are people who must apply sulphate of copper (blue-stone) to every wound, whether it is wanted or not. Bluestone may be used in cases where the proud flesh or granulations are excessive, but I am not aware that it does much good, likewise its action being more of a caustic, killing live tissues, and retarding rather than assisting the reparative process of nature, and, therefore, should be used sparingly and with caution.

The Sewing of Wounds.

With regard to wounds pure and simple, it is well to remember that when bringing the edges together it is advisable to take up a fair amount of skin as, unless this is done, the stitches are liable to cut through if they have to support much weight. I need hardly say that each stitch must be entirely separate and tied on its own; and it would never do to stitch away after the style of a tailor stitching a piece of cloth. This would not answer at all, as one part breaking the whole would give way, and our labor would be in vain. What is known, therefore, in surgery as the "interrupted" suture or stitch is the proper thing. The best sort of needle (they are of various sizes for different work) is one with a lance point and slightly curved. Ordinary needles are very difficult to pass through the skin, and are awkward in many ways. Silk suture thread (carbolised) is very good, but ordinary twine, as long as it is clean and uncolored, may be used at a pinch, previously having dipped it in some antiseptic solution.

Dressings.

Do not be prejudiced against twine because it is called twine, but be careful that it is clean, which is far more important than what material it is made of. Catgut makes good suture, if procurable, and also wire made of silver is useful in special cases, but the latter must be removed when the wound has thoroughly healed and no longer requires the support of the stitches. It will be found in nearly all wounds that when once brought together they do best afterwards with the application of dry dressings. Iodoform is excellent, but expensive. Mixed with about ten parts of boracic acid, it makes a useful dressing. Plain powdered charcoal answers well; it has the advantage of being cheap, and there is any amount of it in the bush after burning off. Half boracic and half charcoal does very well. The wound should be continually dusted over with it. Bandages are all right in their way, but if they can be done without all the better. Wet applications, such as oils and lotions, do not seem to act so satisfactorily as dressings; they keep the wound weak, and there is a tendency to a prolongation of the natural process of repair. In the case of a wound that has not been attended to for some days after the injury has happened, the edges of which are dry and beginning to scab over, it will be necessary before attempting to bring it together to scarify or scrape the edges with a knife until raw and bleeding, so as to make it as it were fresh and give things another start. Wounds, no doubt, will often heal if left entirely to nature, but nature does not always make a very artistic job of it, and needs a little help, if we do not desire to see ugly blemishes remaining. A blemish, more especially on the front of the knee of a valuable horse, lowers the value of the animal in the market, and it is wonderful what can be done to avoid such things if wounds are properly attended to, and in time.

The Fly Trouble.

Flies are a great trouble in all warm climates, and every injury requires to be very carefully covered up and kept protected from them. They often poison otherwise healthy wounds by inoculating them with matter of an injurious nature. Tar, used so frequently in the bush as an application to all sorts of wounds, has certainly much to recommend it, and flies do not care about it. Farmers and those who are isolated in the backblocks and have to depend upon their own ingenuity in cases of emergencies, would do well to provide themselves with some simple remedies applicable to ordinary injuries.

A few surgical needles, suture thread, bandages, carbolic acid, phenyle, and such like should always be on hand. As for medicine, well, it should seldom be wanted in this land of sunshine; and when proper attention is paid to the exercising, feeding, watering and housing of the animals, I am of the opinion that most of the physic may be thrown overboard, and it will never be missed.—Veterinary-surgeon Burns, in the West Australian Journal of Agriculture."

A SAD LITTLE STORY.

One of the longest delayed proposals on record is related in a French story of a shy young subaltern who was ordered away to the wars. Not daring to speak, he sent a nosegay of yellow roses to the girl he loved, with a little note inside, begging her, if she returned his love, to wear one of the flowers in her breast that night at the ball. She appeared without it, and he went away broken-hearted. Years afterwards when he was a lame old general, he again met his old love, now a white-haired widow. One day his old sweetheart gently asked him why he had never married. "Madam," he answered somewhat sternly, "you ought to know best. If you had not refused to answer that note in the bouquet of yellow roses I might have been a happier man." "The note in the bouquet," she repeated, growing pale. She opened an old cabinet and took out from a drawer a shrivelled bouquet of what had been yellow roses, among whose leafless stalks lurked a scrap of paper, yellow with age. "See! I never had your note," she said, holding the bouquet up. "If I had I would not have answered it as you fancied. "Then answer it now," said the gallant old soldier, and the long-delayed proposal was accepted at last.

THE SINS OF THE SON.

In Busreh, Persia, the hand of native justice punishes the robber with great severity, as may be inferred from the following episode, the truth of which is vouched for by a gentleman of position long resident in the district:—

On a certain occasion a native of low class attacked this gentleman, seized the bridle of his horse, and demanded baksheesh. The rider promptly delivered his assailant a blow with his whip, and proceeded to the head sheikh, to whom he reported the matter. The sheikh undertook to see that the miscreant should be suitably punished, and the traveller continued his journey. On his return he again visited this dignitary, who, bowing low, assured the gentleman that both the guilty man and his father had been severely bastinaded!

The traveller ventured to remark that the father, at any rate, was innocent, and asked why punishment had been meted out to him.

The reply was quickly forthcoming: "Oh, we punished the man for his wicked act, and the father because he had not brought up his son properly!"—a rather startling reversion of the order in which the punishment for sin is to be visited according to Scriptural ideas.

INTRODUCING A VIOLINIST.

The following is said to be a verbatim account of the introduction of an eminent violinist to a far Western audience:—

"Ladies and gentlemen," began Colonel Handy Polk, the well-known real-estate agent, stepping to the front of the stage and addressing the audience, "it is my privilege this evenin' to interduce to you Signor ——, the notorious furrin fiddler, who will endeavor to favor us with home high-class and A1 violin-playin'. The signor was born and raised in Italy, where fiddlin' is not merely a fad, but as much of a business as politics is in this country, and when it comes to handlin' the bow, he emphatically knows whur he is at. He hasn't dropped into our midst by accident, but comes under the auspices of the Literary Society, which is payin' his wages and backin' him to the last gasp. So let it be understood that if you happen to have any criticisms to offer, you are to do your kicking to the society, and not to the signor. I'll just add that if you expect him to swing the fiddle around his head or play it under his leg, like we used to skip stones across the swimmin'-hole when we were little boys and girls, you may jest as well go right now and git your money back from the doorkeeper, for the signor hain't that kind of a player. That's all I have to say at present. Start her up, signor."

AN ELEVEN-FOOT BEARD.

Valentine Tapley, of Frankford, Mo., has perhaps the longest beard on record, 11 feet in length. Mr. Tapley stands six feet, and his beard is long enough to reach his entire length and lie 6 feet 7 inches on the floor. He has not trimmed his beard since the Civil War.

Mr. Tapley lives on a farm near Frankford in what is known as the "Kingdom of Calliway," a rich agricultural country. Tapley says he hasn't done anything since the close of the way but pay taxes and vote the Democratic ticket.

Mr. Tapley may be called eccentric. He cares very little for money and display, preferring his quiet farm life to that of the gaze of the curious. He has refused large offers to go with shows and tour America and foreign countries.

He wears his beard rolled up and under his shirt bosom, wrapped in a fine silk cloth.

Mr. Tapley's father came from North Carolina to Missouri in 1818. He has a record of his family since the sixteenth century, but no member of his family since that time has possessed such a growth of beard.

LAUGHT

CRICKET.

NORTHCOTE V. ST. KILDA.

This match was commenced at the Northcote Park on Saturday last. Begg and Birrell played in place of Bailey and Richardson. Mitchell won the toss from Matthews, who captained St. Kilda in the absence of Dudgeon. Webb and Rowe opened for Northcote to the bowling of Armstrong and Matthews. Matters commenced very badly for Northcote, five wickets falling for 16 runs, Matthews securing the whole of them, whilst Armstrong sent down 7 overs and only one ball was scored off, a fourer by Rowe. Billings and O'Leary stopped the rot, and O'Leary hard hitting Armstrong to cover was well held by Fitzgerald, after scoring 10. Begg joined Billings and batted very freely, scoring 36 runs in as many minutes. Wilkinson followed and was run out in trying an almost impossible two. Mitchell followed, and showing his best form for the season with the bat, helped Billings to bring the total to 130, when Billings retired, having scored 60 runs without giving a chance, taking 1 hour 59 minutes to make them, the last 20 going on in almost as many minutes. Had he played the same game after the adjournment as he did before probably Northcote would have been at the wickets all day, but like all Northcote batsmen this season when they reach the 40's they appear to lose all patience or get tired. Plant followed Mitchell and succeeded in putting Armstrong to leg three times and to the fence on each occasion. He deserved much better success as his intentions were good though his execution was bad. He bravely tried to put all the balls from the same bowler to the same place, but put his leg in front instead of the bat. All out 154.

St. Kilda, with an hour to bat, made things very lively, hitting off 78 runs, of which Matthews scored 52 and Ainslie 26, both good displays. Matthews gave one almost impossible chance (!) in the slips off Birrell, who tries to emulate Cotter with a long run which tends to exaggerate his pace. "Long Stop" must have been very much put out to see a completely new player tried in place of his particular idol. Link with him that in the absence of Bailey and Richarnson, Brown should have been tried. Unless the clerk of the weather plays with Northcote to day they must be beaten. The following are the scores:—

NORTHCOTE.

Rowe, b Matthews ...	4
Webb, b Matthews ...	1
Brown, c and b Matthews	0
Buckley, c Upward b Matthews	8
Begg, c and b Fitzgerald	36
O'Leary, c Fitzgerald b Armstrong	10
Billings, b Fitzgerald ...	60
Wilkinson, run out ...	1
Birrell, c Upward b Matthews	0
Plant, l.b.w. Armstrong	12
Mitchell, not out ...	16
Sundries ...	6
	154

ST. KILDA.

Matthews, not out ...	52
Ainslie, not out ...	26
No wkts. for	78

SECOND ELEVENS.

Northcote second eleven started their match against St. Kilda on the St. Kilda cricket ground last Saturday, and, batting first, compiled 151, of which Ashby made 39, E. Yeomans 27, S. Yeomans 22, Lugton 19, and James 11. Four were run out. St. Kilda lost 4 wickets for 63, Andrew taking the 4 for 32. The match will be continued at Elsternwick this afternoon.

Northcote's last match of the season is against Collingwood, the first eleven at Collingwood and the seconds at Northcote park, a one day's match, on April 3rd, commencing at 1 o'clock sharp.

Northcote Presbyterian A. v. Cairns Memorial. Won by the latter by 62 runs. Northcote, 53 and 65 (Adams 20, Shand 18, L. Richardson 27); Cairns, 110 and 70 (Price, 5 for 15 and 2 for 20, L. Richardson, 3 for 26 and 2 for 17, Teasdale, 3 for 15, Adams, 3 for 10)

Northcote Presbyterian A play St. Andrew's at Northcote to-day. Players are requested to be on the ground not later than 2.45.

Northcote Presbyterian B. v. Richmond, at Richmond. Scores:—Richmond, 131 (Howden, 5 for 29, R. Hayes 5 for 50); Northcote, 65 and 60 (Timmins 13 and 20, N. Hayes 30, Howden 14). Richmond won by an innings and 6 runs. Northcote batted one short in first innings and three short in second innings.

Braithwaite's tannery play Pitt's at the Fitzroy racecourse to-day. An exciting game is expected.

Royal Star, O.S.T., play Geelong for the championship of Victoria to day on the former's ground. A good game is expected.

Everleigh, 5 for 105 (W. Punch 33 not not, Ashton 30, Hills, 13, Brittain 12 not out) drew with Reuter's Ramblers, 136 (Deacon 3 for 91, Ashton 1 for 9).

Preston Presbyterian, 36 and 7 for50; v. Clarendon St., 53 and 136. Preston lost by 17 on the first innings. Preston play St. Kilda on the latter's ground to-day.

Be sure you ask for and see that you get **T. W. SHERRIN'S** Improved Match Cricket Balls—absolutely the strongest made ball the world produces. Look for the name and "Kangaroo Brand" which are gold stamped on each ball. Manufactory: 32 and 34 Wellington St., Collingwood. Sherrin's cricket balls are used by the English Eleven and all the Leading Clubs of Melbourne in pennant matches; also ordered by the trustees of the Sydney cricket ground, and used throughout the Commonwealth by the leading clubs.

BOWLING.

Northcote v. Thornbury, played at Thornbury.

NORTHCOTE, 113.

1. McIntosh, Browd, Rendle, Bennell...	25
2. Bailey, Saunders, McGregor, Mitchell	30
3. Treleaven, Bowden, Goldsworthy, Schieferdecker	28
4. Allen, Harvey, Taylor, Dudman ...	30

THORNBURY, 85.

1. Boyd, Whiteoak, Jarrett, Gilpin ...	22
2. Meakin, Johnson, Dickason, King ...	20
3. Ingham, Downing, Smith, Whalley	19
4. Harris, Robb, Workman, Stephens	24

The Northcote club hold a rink tournament to-day on their own green for trophies presented by the president, Mr. R. B. Lawrence. Rinks are selected by the match committee, play to commence at 2.45 sharp. Players are requested to be on the green not later than 2 30 p.m. Three rounds, each of 9 ends, will be played.

Thornbury 3-rink team played a friendly game against Preston last Saturday.

THORNBURY, 63.

1. Fairclough, Tobin, Brown, Doran ...	28
2. McDougall, Rulmer, Farley, Harry	17
3. Robinson, Littlejohn, Cogle, Launder	18

PRESTON, 51.

1. Braithwaite, Strable, Walker, Bartley, ...	11
2. Stanlake, DuBurg, Wilkinson, Pike	21
3. Crispe, jnr., Hanna, Howe, Crispe, snr.	19

Thornbury four rink play Studley Park at Studley Park to-day. A drag will leave the club room at 1.45. The three-rink play a friendly match against S.M.C.C. Rovers on the Thornbury green.

The newly-launched Preston club is already taking its place in the ranks of the great bowling fraternity. It has already played two matches, and there is still a good long list to look forward to. The "old hands" are rapidly striking form, and some of the "colts" are giving excellent promise. There was a match on Wednesday last against a team of civil servants, amongst whom was some very "hot stuff," and though the local players were stiffened up by the inclusion of a few outsiders they went down considerably. A. Walker's rink, however, was a few "up," and it was an enjoyable game.

I.O.R.

The last meeting of the Pride of Northcote tent was held on Tuesday evening. There were three initiations and two proposals. There were a number of members present from the Star of Northcote tent. It was decided to have a novelty evening at the next meeting of the ladies' tent in the shape of a "toy social." The price of admission will be a toy, and the proceeds will go towards the fancy fair which is to be held shortly. All the members of both tents are cordially invited to be present.

The Rose of Preston junion tent held their quarterly meeting in the Rechabite-hall on Monday night, Bro. W. Lord in the chair. There was a good attendance of members. Superintendent Bro. Lord presented prizes which were won at the last picnic. On Tuesday night the members assembled at the Rechabite-hall and drove away in a van to pay a visit to Alphington tent. The Alphington tent hope soon to return the visit.

PRESTON FOOTBALL CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Preston Football Club was held in the shire hall on Wednesday evening last. There was a very large gathering of members and supporters of the club present, the hall being filled, and great interest and enthusiasm was manifested in the proceedings. Amongst those present were Mr. Cole Bentley, vice-president of the V.F.A., Mr. Turner, vice-president of the Essendon F.C., and Mr. J. G. Membrey, M.L.A., while apologies were received from Mr. Evans, secretary V.F.A., Mr. Hume Cook, M.P., and Mr. Stan. McGeorge, auditor of the P.F.C.

Mr. T. Mitchell, president, in inviting Mr. Membrey to preside over the meeting, said they were all pleased to see their Parliamentary representative taking an interest in the local club. He (Mr. Mitchell) congratulated the club on their improved position last season. Although they were not as high up on the premiership list as they would have liked, yet they put up some splendid games, and were only beaten by some of the crack clubs by very narrow margins. Their finances, he was also pleased to say, were in a very healthy state, and he trusted the club would be higher up on the list at the end of the coming season. (Applause).

Mr. Membrey said he was glad to be present at their annual meeting and to have the pleasure of presiding over such a large gathering. Although they were not successful in winning the premiership last season they had many enjoyable games and came through with a very creditable performance. He was pleased to see by their balance sheet and report that the club had greatly improved their position both financially and numerically, the increase in the membership being over 100. This showed that the officers and committee had been a hard working set. He had told them at their last annual meeting that he had got £25 from the Government for the improvement of the park on the condition that the council supplemented it with £10, and he might say that he had secured the same offer this year. (Applause). He said he had been advertised to speak at Malvern that night on the proposal to build a Dreadnought for Great Britain, but he thought it his duty to be present at their annual meeting after receiving an invitation from their secretary. In conclusion, he wished the club every success during the coming season. (Applause).

The secretary (Mr. W. H. Smith) read the annual report, which was as follows:—

Your committee have very great pleasure in submitting to you their annual report and balance sheet. As predicted in the last report, the season 1908 was one of the best the club has enjoyed, and from a financial point the result was most satisfactory. We have to place on record our highest appreciation and best thanks to those generous patrons why again came forward in assisting the club along. The team must be commended on their excellent behaviour both on and off the field. The names of Messrs J. Ralph and P. Howes have been so long associated with the club that a gold life member's badge will be presented to the former and a long service certificate to the latter for valuable services rendered. We regret to have to refer to the death of the late Mr. H. C. Donaldson, one of our committee men. Your committee place on record the assistance rendered to the club by Mr. J. Hedigan, who acted as assistant secretary during the season, and took charge while the secretary was away with the interstate team. The first time in the history of the club a special train was engaged to convey supporters to Brighton, when just on 400 travelled by it, which is a mark of enthusiasm. Mr. J. Harvey generously presented the club with a bell, and our best thanks are due to him. One of your committee men, Mr. Geo. Pritchard, met with a nasty accident whilst assisting the club, and we are pleased to state that he has entirely recovered. The incoming season looks very bright, and with last season's players remaining, and the infusion of some two or three well known players and promising juniors, we hope to build up a good team, with the result of better gates, although there was a decided improvement in that direction compared with the previous season. The club is very much on the upgrade, as will be noted by the wonderful increase of membership—93 to 200. This speaks volumes for those who worked so hard in the interest of the club, and with the same unanimous support in the district a successful season is assured.

Mr. Mathrick asked why only one member was down for a long service certificate, when, as a matter of fact, four or five were entitled to receive them.

The secretary said the committee had carefully considered it, and they were of opinion that Mr. Howes, who had done admirable service for the club, was justly entitled to one.

Mr. Mathrick—There are others who have been playing with the club for the last 14 or 15 years, who are also entitled to receive one. He could name four, viz., Messrs S. Hall, P. Hall, C. Stanlake, and A. White. He did not think any one had done such good service to the club as these players. In fact he did not think there would be a Preston football club to day but for them. There was a code of rules drawn up for the guidance of the club, one of which laid down that a player who had played with the club for five years was entitled to a certificate, and the committee had no power to pick out any particular player. He would move that the committee be instructed to obtain certificates and present them to the players who had played with the club for five years, and that they be handed over within two months.

The motion was seconded by Mr. J. T. Ralph and carred.

The balance sheet showed the receipts to be £353 19s 10, the principal items of receipts being—Donations, £49 18s; member's tickets, £45 10s; gross receipts from home matches, £67 5s 9d; dividends from final matches, £104 15s. The chief items of expenditure were—Players' training and travelling expenses, £97 2s 4d; uniforms, footballs and boots, £33 14s 6d; trainers, £14 17s 3d; umpires, £29 5s; printing and advertising, £17 15s 7d; and there is a credit balance left of £57 10s 1d.

Mr. Yardley drew attention to the increase of expenditure in some of the items, especially players, &c., expenses, which had gone up from £69 16s 11d the previous year to £97 2s 4d last year, and uniforms, footballs, &c., from £24 4s to £33 14s 6d. He thought it a disgrace that there should be such an increase, and he trusted the committee would watch the finances the coming season.

The report and balance-sheet were adopted on the motion of Messrs Ward and Ralph.

Mr. Cole Bentley at this stage said he had to congratulate the club on the very successful season they had had. He did not think there was another team in the Association who could show such a splendid credit balance. He did not believe in professionalism in football, but he contended that after expenses had been met the players were entitled to the balance in some form or other, as they had to play Saturday after Saturday for the sake of the club. He als spoke highly of the manner in which Preston had conducted themselves on the field and for their fairness in playing the game.

The chairman presented Mr. P. Howes with a long service certificate, beautifully illuminated and mounted, and Mr. J. T. Ralph with a gold life member's medallion. Both recipients briefly responded.

The election of officers for the ensuing season resulted as follows:—President, Cr. J. P. Howe; vice presidents, Cr. E. Alchin, and Messrs T. Broadhurst, W. Oats, S. E. McGeorge, T. Mitchell, J. Thomson, W. Dickens; secretary, Mr. W. H. Smith (re-elected unopposed); treasurer, Mr. W. Spratling (re elected unopposed); auditors, Messrs H. Mathrick and S. E McGeorge; general committee, Messrs H. Bradford, W. Dickens, G. Pritchard, F. Hardenack, E. Mehegan, F. Ralston, N. Saunders, S. Constable, and H. Tomkins. Several of the newly elected officers returned thanks.

Mr. W. H. Smith (secretary) and Mr. J. Hedigan (assistant secretary) were voted £5 5s and £2 2s respectively for the services they had rendered the club.

Mr. Ralph made feeling reference to the great blow that had come to their treasurer (Mr. Spratling) in the death of another of his daughters, and moved that a letter of condolence be sent to the bereaved family, also that an ever-lasting wreath be forwarded. Seconded by Cr. Howe.

During the evening songs were contributed by Messrs Brunier, Lambeth, and Seeber, and Cr. J. P. Howe favored with a recitation.

Votes of thanks to the retiring officers, and also to Mr. Membrey for presiding, brought a very successful meeting to a close.

Northcote A.W.A.

The fortnightly meeting was held on March 15, Mrs. Puttifoot in the chair. There was a fair attendance. The report of the conference was read by the delegates and was much appreciated by all present. The next meeting is to be on March 29th, the syllabus item being "Book Night and Spelling Bee," for which a good prize is offered.

NORTHCOTE

Property Exchange.

Stott & Bastings

(H. E. BASTINGS, W. S. STOTT),

Auctioneer,

Sworn Valuer,

Estate & Insurance Agents.

RENTS COLLECTED.

BUILDINGS ARRANGED.

MONEY TO LENT ON DEEDS.

OFFICES:

207 High St., Northcote.

521 High St., Upper Northcote.

Station St., Fairfield (on station).

381 High St., Preston (opp. Shire Hall)

Heidelberg Road, Alphington.

Tel. 1976.

Houses & Land To Let.

PRESTON.—Villa, 6 rooms, fruit trees, 1½ acres, 17/6. Residence, 7 rooms, at station, 20/. Villa, 6 rooms, Regent street, 13/6. Villa, 7 rooms, fruit trees, land 50 x 200, 13/6. Villa 5 rooms, corner position, 10/. Villa, 6 rooms, large allotment, 11/6. Villa, 5 rooms, free railway ticket, 12/6. Villa, 7 rooms, ½ acre, 12/6. Cottage, 5 rooms, open position, 6/6. Cottage, 4 rooms, 2 acres, 7/6. Shop, 4 rooms, business centre, 8/. McGeorge Bros., rent collectors, Preston and Brunswick.

NORTHCOTE POLICE COURT.

MONDAY, MARCH 22.

[Before Dr. Cole, P.M., and Messrs Plant, Tharratt, and McIntosh, J's.P.]

SELLING ADULTERATED MILK.

George Gibson, dairyman, Mitchell street, Northcote, was proceeded against by Ernest John O'Connor, inspector under the Central Board of Health, with selling adultered milk. Mr. Moir for the prosecution, Mr. Hewison for the defence.

Inspector J. W. Mills gave evidence as to taking samples from each of the four vessels in defendant's cart in High street, Northcote, on the morning of Sunday, 17th January. The samples purchased were divided into three parts, one being sent to the analyst.

Inspector O'Connor gave corroborative evidence.

Bruce Tullock Paton, Deputy Government Analyst, gave the result his analysis of two of the samples. The first showed 3.54 instead of 3.5 per cent. of fatty soli's; 11.71 instead of 12 per cent. total solids; and 8.17 instead of 8.5 per cent. of non fatty solids. The second sample showed 2.75 instead of 3.5 per cent. of fatty solids; 9.82 instead of 12 per cent. of total solids; and 7.07 instead of 8.5 per cent. of non fatty solids. The first sample showed an equivalent of 4 per cent. and the second equal to 17 per cent. of added water.

The defendant stated he had been trading for 40 years, and though many samples of his milk had been taken by the inspectors he had never before been prosecuted. The only way he could account for the inferiority of the milk on the present occasion was that the milk of four cows which he had bought a day or two before in the market had gone out for the first time; and it had been pasteurised by boiling and possibly some water may have boiled into the milk. Certainly he had not adulterated the milk in any way.

John Brown, the driver, gave evidence that he had been employed by Mr. Gibson for five months, during which time samples of the milk he was selling had been taken five times and it was always found to be all right.

The first sample was so close up to the standard that the Bench looked upon it as only a technical offence and inflicted a fine of 10s, with £1 11s 6d costs.

In the second case the fine was made £5, with £1 11s 6d costs.

John Brown, the driver, was fined 2s 6d in each case, without costs.

Inspector O'Connor also sued Sydney Smyth, driver for G. D. Buckham, of Vere street, Collingwood, for selling adulterated milk (the analysis of the sample taken showed 21 per cent. deficiency in fat.)

Defendant, who did not appear, was fined £5, in default one month's imprisonment.

DEBT.

B. E. Johnson secured an order against Albert Rayment for £2 1s 2d for goods sold and delivered.

RIDING ON A FOOTPATH.

For this offence Wm. E. Townsend was fined 2s 6d.

TENNIS.

An interesting and enjoyable tennis match was played last Saturday, 13th inst., at the court adjoining Regent railway station, between the "Bungalows," represented by the Misses E. Barker, E. Mowat, Mrs. Olney, Messrs Schumacher 2, E. Rundle and Olney, and the Brighton Congregationalists, who were represented by the Misses Knights, Singer, Davidson and Messrs Hobson, Bradbury 2, and Gill. After some close and exciting games the former were the victors by 7 games. During the interval refreshments were served by Mrs. Schumacher, assisted by Miss Moore and Muriel Olney, and a very pleasant afternoon was spent by all.

The newly-formed All Saints' tennis club, Northcote, play their first match to-day against Holy Trinity, Northcote, on the latter's court. All Saints' representatives will be chosen from—Misses A. Brown, G. Jarrett, F. Copperthwaite, V. Gough, A. Burge, I. Farr, H. Hopkinson and N. Turner, and Messrs V. Griffith, W. H. Edwards, F. G. Belcher (vice-capt.), V. Swift, A. C. Seidel (capt.), J. S. Goldsworthy, R. Whitelay, D. Brown. All Saints' players are requested to meet at Holy Trinity at 2 p.m. sharp.

JOHN PHILLIPS, M.R.V.S.,

VETERINARY SURGEON and EQUINE DENTIST,

88 EARNY ST., COLLINGWOOD.

Open to call at any hour of night or day.

Horse and Cattle Medicines supplied

Phone 1904, City.

Announcements

NORTHCOTE PRESBYTERIAN S.S., James St.

ANNIVERSARY SERVICES, Sunday, 28th March.

Morning at 11, Rev. S. McGOWAN.
Afternoon at 3, Rev. S. McGOWAN.
Evening at 7, Rev. J. BARNABY.
Special Singing by Scholars.

WEDNESDAY, 31st MARCH.
TEA MEETING and DISTRIBUTION of PRIZES at 8 p.m.
Vocal and Instrumental Items by Scholars.
Admission, silver coin.

SUNDAY, 4th APRIL.
Morning at 11, Rev. A. HARDIE.
Evening at 7, Rev. F. McQUEEN.
Special Singing by Scholars.

WEDNESDAY, 7th APRIL, at 8 p.m.
Grand BIOSCOPE ENTERTAINMENT by Alex. Gunn & Sons.
3000 feet of Pictures. First time shown in Victoria.
Illustrated Songs, &c. Admission 6d.
J. A. THOMSON } Hon.
J. SHAND } Secs.

Amusements.

HELP THE CHILDREN.

The NORTHCOTE STH. RATEPAYERS' Association will hold a MONSTER ALL-BIOSCOPE ENTERTAINMENT in the Northcote Park on WEDNESDAY, 7th APRIL, at 8 p.m.

Total Proceeds towards Formation of Children's Play Ground in the Park, Swings, See-Saws, Sand Bath, &c.

Every resident should assist in this laudable object, and so help the LITTLE ONES to enjoy themselves.

Riley's Fitzroy Military Band engaged.
Adults 6d, Children 3d.
G. POCKNALL, Hon. Sec.

CROXTON PARK RESERVE.

Wednesday, 31st March, at 8 p.m. GRAND NOVELTY PROGRAMME. First appearance of Joe Lashwood in his Cowboy Specialities; also Fred Norris, the Skatorial King. Song and Dance Competition and Sailors' Hornpipe, both under 16.

H. W. BALHARRY, Business Manager.

EPPING ATHLETIC CLUB.

FIRST ANNUAL SPORTS, to be held on EASTER MONDAY, 12th APRIL, 1909.

Open Handicap. £2 first, 15/ second. Nomination 2/, acceptance 1/.
District Maiden Plate. 15/ first, 5/ second. Entry 1/.
District Handicap, 120 yds. £3 first, £1 second. Nom. 2/, accep. 2/.
District Handicap, 440 yds. £2 first, 15/ second. Nom. 1/6, accep. 1/.
District Hurdle Race, 120 yds. £1 first, 10/ second. Nom. 1/, accep. 8d.
Also Children's Races, Ladies' Races, High Jumping, Throwing the Weight, Tossing the Sheaf, Handicap Trot, Hack Race, etc.

All nominations accompanied by fees before 9 p.m. 3rd April. Also last two years' performances for District Hurdle Race, District Handicaps, 120 and 440 yds., and Open Handicap.

Runners in the boundaries of the Bourke-Evelyn Football Association only eligible competitors in the district events.

Side Shows, Refreshments. Soft Drink charged 5/ admission to reserve.

GRAND BALL in the Evening in the Shire Hall.
Tickets 2/6. Refreshments provided.
EDWD. JAS. DEA } Secs.
A. McHUTCHINSON }

Auction Notices

AUCTION SALES.

STOTT & BASTINGS.

SATURDAY, 3rd APRIL. At the Properties.

3 o'clock—Victoria Road, corner Gotch St., Northcote South. BRICK SHOP and DWELLING, 6 rooms and conveniences, land 30 x 90, occupied for years as a General Store.

3.30.—Raleigh Street, close High Street, Northcote Upper. New D.F.W.B. VILLA, 6 rooms, modern fittings, land 42 x 145.

4 o'clock—No. 7 Normanby Avenue, close High Street, Northcote Upper. D.F.W.B. VILLA, 6 rooms, every convenience, land 50 x 145.

4.15.—Woolton Avenue, between High St. and Railway, Northcote, close Croxton station. Fine ALLOTMENT, 100 x 120, fenced two sides. Will divide.

Titles, Certificate. Terms at Sale.

Full particulars and orders to view from STOTT & BASTINGS, 207 and 521 High Street, Northcote, and Fairfield. Tel. 1976.

Next Property Sale, 24th April.

THIS DAY.
At 3 o'clock.
TRUSTEES' SALE, PRESTON.
GROCERS' SHOP, DWELLING, and Stabling, High Street.
BRICK VILLA, Station Street.
W.B. COTTAGE, Regent Street.
Also BUSINESS SITES in High Street and RESIDENTIAL BLOCKS in Trudgeon and Station Streets, adjoining REGENT STATION.

WM. H. EDGAR has been instructed by the trustees in the estate of late Richard Trudgeon to sell, as above—Shop, villa, cottage properties; business and residential sites.

Terms at sale. Title, certificate.

Houses & Land For Sale.

McGEORGE BROS., AUCTIONEER and ESTATE AGENTS, HIGH STREET, PRESTON, and 858 Sydney Road (tram terminus), Brunswick, offer the following properties For Sale.

AUCTION SALE This Day. 53 Loch Street, Coburg. Pretty villa, 5 rooms, all comforts, 3 minutes station. Executors realising. McGeorge Bros., auctioneer, 858 Sydney road, Brunswick, and High street, Preston.

PRESTON.—Neat little cottage, 4 rooms, splendid order, large shed, fruit trees, land 28 x 200, £200. Terms arranged. McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Pretty W.B. villa, 6 rooms, conservatory, grounds planted, garden, fruit trees, 1½ acres, £750. Easy terms. McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—No deposit, no interest. Allotments, 50 x 180, £27. Monthly payments 9/. Real choice building sites. Every block surveyed and pegged out. McGeorge Bros., agents for Sheffield Estate.

PRESTON.—Post Office Estate. A grand spec. Allotments, 34 x 115, £17 each. £3 deposit, few shillings monthly. Plans, McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Rare Bargain. Modern Queen Anne-villa, 6 splendid rooms, all comforts, stable, land 77 x 134, corner position, first class railway ticket, £550. McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Realization. Grand building land, 128 x 190, splendidly situated. Quick sale, 7/6 foot. Plan on application. McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Best buying in district. Magnificent subdivisional block, corner two leading streets, facing station. Profit assured. McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.—Tyler street. Substantial brick villa, 6 rooms, bow window, splendid order, a valuable property, £425. McGeorge Bros.

FOR SALE, Cheap.—Three Brick Cottages, always let, in good order, good position, annual return £40. T. E. Redmond, ironmonger, 410 High St., Northcote, or A. Robertson, estate agent, High street, Preston.

Do not advertise and stop,
But advertise and stay;
For those who read your ad. last time
Will look for it to-day.

Local Government.

SHIRE OF EPPING.

NOTICE is hereby given that interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum will be charged on all rates not paid on or before 31st March, 1909.

JAMES RYAN,
Shire Secretary.

18th March, 1909.

SHIRE OF PRESTON.

FRESH TENDERS are invited, returnable up to 4 p.m. on Monday, 5th April, for the supply of Maintenance Metal as hereunder:—

1. 250 cubic yards 2-inch, Sec. 1, High St.
2. 250 cubic yards 2-inch, Sec. 2, Epping Road.
3. 250 cubic yards 2½-inch, Sec. 2, Plenty Road.

Specifications, &c., at Shire Hall. Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

T. J. WITHRINGTON,
Shire Engineer.

SHIRE OF PRESTON

Ratepayers are hereby notified that the pan fees charged at 4s per pan for half year ending 30th Sept., 1909, are due and payable on the 1st April, and must be paid at the Shire Office on or before the 14th, or the service will be discontinued.

T. J. WITHRINGTON,
Shire Secretary.

TOWN OF NORTHCOTE.

INTEREST ON RATES.

NOTICE is hereby given that Interest at the rate of 6 per centum per annum will be charged on all amounts due for Special Improvement Rates Nos. 1 and 2, unless such amounts be paid on or before the 31st inst. The collector will be in attendance at the municipal offices, High Street, Northcote, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon daily to receive payment of such rates.

By order,
W. G. SWIFT,
Town Clerk.

26-3-09.

TOWN OF NORTHCOTE

FRESH TENDERS.

TENDERS will be received until 4 p.m. on the 5th April, 1909, for the Formation, Channelling and Metalling of Langston street.

Plan and specifications may be inspected at the municipal offices, High street, Northcote.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

By order,
W. G. SWIFT,
Town Clerk.

26-3-09.

Ernest Lees,

ESTATE AGENT,

299 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE
(next "Leader" office).

I am gratified with the splendid support which the property owners and residents of this district have given me during the last year.

I am looking forward with confidence to even greater success during 1909.

My business is conducted on the soundest and cleanest lines, and while strenuous efforts are put forth to effect sales, no attempt is made to FOIST property upon purchasers. This system has inspired confidence and almost invariably one purchaser has recommended a relation or friend to do business through me.

I shall be pleased to receive particulars of property for sale.

Notify me when your insurance business needs attention and leave the rest to me.

Before building consult me. I can save money for you and relieve you of much worry.

Allow me to collect your rent, invest your money, manage your auction sale, or insure your life in the A.M.P.

Does House Property PAY?

Well, that depends on the firm that does your business for you. Probably 95 per cent. of agents have very little practical knowledge of the construction or repairs of a house, and are deficient also of the legal training which should be possessed by a competent agent to enable him to properly discharge the important duties of his profession. That accounts for the absurd and serious mistakes made by incompetent agents which are liable to involve owners in costly law expenses and sometimes loss of property.

Thousands of pounds are lost by owners through allowing their property to go out of repair, which a practical agent could have saved them by reliable advice given them when it was first needed. If you wish your property to pay good interest on your money place it in the hands of THE PRACTICAL AGENTS,

Gordon Garrett & Co.,

the only agents in the district with legal and building trade experience. Specialists in House Property, Insurance Experts. We advance money to buy or build, supply plans, specifications, and estimates. If you wish to insure your house or furniture, just drop us a note so that we may call and quote you lowest rates.

No business is too small or too large for us to attend to. Note address—

GORDON GARRETT & CO.,
Architects, Builders, Estate, Insurance and Financial Agents,
583-585 High St., Upper Northcote
(near Thornbury station).

Houses built, cash or terms, materials and workmanship guaranteed. No "jerry building" catered for. Representatives for these districts for the new "Madera-Ferro-Concrete" Buildings now coming into use in Australia. Better and cheaper than weatherboard or brick—more artistic and comfortable. Don't imagine because our buildings are well built and artistic they are necessarily expensive. We build well at a fair price to maintain a good reputation and secure further business. A well built, artistic home is cheaper than a jerry building. With its artistic design, harmoniously and tastefully blended decorations, and those little up-to-date conveniences that help to make a pleasant and comfortable home, it is the pride of its owner and friends, adds to his social distinction and is a valuable property to sell or let—while Brown's house built by "Runemup," the "jerry builder," is a constant source of expense to him for repairs and a heavy loss if he wishes to sell.

IF You are running an entertainment of any kind, be wise and
ADVERTISE it thoroughly

H. ADAMS,

BUTCHER,

322 High Street,

NORTHCOTE.

LATE W. H. TACEY.

ONLY ONE QUALITY KEPT—THE BEST.

The high standard of excellence, which made Mr. Tacey's name famous in this progressive district will still be maintained.

Telephone 114, Brunswick.

NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER FIRM.

WILLIAM COX,

CARRIAGE & MOTOR WORKS

Any make of Buggy, Cart, or Car repaired, painted, re-trimmed, etc., equal to new.

VEHICLES OF ANY STYLE BUILT TO ORDER.

Post cards and messages—**Phone 109** Brunswick—promptly attended to.

ADDRESS:—

High & Westgarth Streets, Northcote.

Private Address—"Giraby Villa," 6 Herbert St.

Wanted to Sell

BUILDING SAND, coarse or fine; also gravel and first-class garden soil; delivered in all suburbs. A. Strongman, Bell street, South Preston.

FORTY-FOUR Standard Sewing Machines, all nearly new and in good order, for Sale at a very low price for cash. O. Gilpin, "Nyora," Normanby avenue, Upper Northcote.

FOR SALE.—200 tons Red Gum Wood (2 foot). Apply C. Grant, Woodstock.

CAMERA, 5 x 4 Pony Premo, carrying case, tripod, and two double dark slides; a bargain. E. O'Hara, Livingstone street, South Preston.

Business Notices

Wm. Walker,

WATCHMAKER, JEWELLER, AND OPTICIAN.

Oculists' Prescriptions Accurately Dispensed.

A BARGAIN IN WATCHES.

SPLENDID TIMEKEEPERS.

KEEP YOUR OWN TIME.

THE NORTHCOTE, fully jewelled	15/-
THE IMPERIAL LEVER, 15 jewels	20/-
NON-MAGNETIC LEVER in heavy nickel case	8/6
ANSONIA WATCHES	6/6

32 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE SOUTH.

Stocktaking Sale

of

FANCY GOODS,
VASES,
GLASSWARE,
STATIONERY,
TOYS,
POST CARDS,
&c.

ALL ARTICLES GREATLY REDUCED.

FOR ONE MONTH ONLY.

Sale now on at

A. LEWIS'S,

350 QUEEN'S PARADE, NORTH FITZROY.

In these our very strenuous days,
The merchant who is wise
Seeks many new and catchy ways
His goods to advertise.

Lost and Found.

LOST.—Gold Pendant and Chain, set with pearls, between Garnet street and David street. Reward. E. Page, David street, South Preston.

LOST.—Gold Brooch, green stones, Plenty road. McBeath, Wood St., Preston. Reward.

LOST.—Large Black and Dark Gray Cat. Finder rewarded on returning to Miss Amy Slade, Cramer street, Preston.

STOLEN from Lynch Park, Epping. Hay Cover, 24 x 20, Sunday night. £1 reward. Moulden, Preston Reservoir.

Tenders.

TENDERS wanted for Ploughing seven acres of land in Preston. Thos. Broadhurst, Murray road, Preston.

PRESTON and NORTHCOTE

Live Stock Market.

POULTRY, FURNITURE, SUNDRIES,

Every TUESDAY at 1 o'clock sharp.

Send your Poultry to us, good prices obtained.

MESSRS NICOL, MILLER & Co. will hold regular sales at their new yards, Tram Terminus, Preston, of Cattle, Pigs, Horses, Vehicles, &c.

Clients are requested to notify us as early as possible of stock coming forward.

Auction Sales of Land, Houses, Furniture, Stock, &c., conducted in any part of the district at lowest rates.

Local agents for the Liverpool & London & Globe Fire and Accident Co. Assets exceed £11,000,000.

Furniture stored free and sold on commission.

Anything and everything.

Houses wanted For Sale and To Let. Several good clients waiting.

NICOL, MILLER & CO.,
AUCTIONEER,
LIVE STOCK SALESMEN,
TRAM TERMINUS, PRESTON.
Telephone 260, Brunswick.

Societies

A.N.A.

AUSTRALIAN NATIVES!

Join the Northcote branch. Meetings held on alternate Thursday evenings, Town Hall, Westbourne Grove.

Interesting Syllabus arranged. Essays, Debates, Shooting Competitions, Harmony, &c., &c. The public invited to each meeting.

Low Contributions for Benefit Members. Funds rapidly increasing.

Next meeting—8th April.

Open night.

H. F. BATTEN, Sec., Westbourne grove.

Independent Order of Rechabites.

Star of Northcote Tent No. 217.

MEETINGS held at Rechabite Hall every alternate Thursday

Next Meeting—1st April.

Juveniles meet every alternate Friday.

BENEFITS—

Sick Pay—For 12 months, £1 a week. Following 6 months, 10/- a week. Afterwards during sickness, 5/- a week.

Funeral—£20 at death of member. £15 at death of member's wife (if insured).

FEES—

Benefit members, 1/- week upwards.
Honorary members, 1/- quarter.
Proposition Fee, 2/6.

J. NEWNHAM, Secretary.

Business Announceme

AUTUMN GOODS

AND

NEW SEASON'S NOVELTIES

AT

HATTAM & HATTAM'S,

DRAPERS, NORTHCOTE.

NEW GOODS!
NEW GOODS!

Here are a few lines:—

VELVETEENS.

Twenty-eight different shades, or a total of 579 yards, bought special. New season's price 1/- yd.

BLOUSINGS

in endless variety, upwards of 1000 yards to select from, ranging in prices 6d, 6½d, 7½d, 8½d, 9½d and 1/- yard. These are the very latest designs.

FURS.

These we have bought exceptionally well. Black will be the principal color this season.

MILLINERY.

Straw ... very stylish; also about 25 boxes of Assorted Flowers, Roses, Violets, Birds, Feather, Wings, and Quills. The above have been bought keen and marked low—not the fancy City prices. Our values will startle you.

**H

Filling the Mayoral Vacancy.

CR. THARRATT PRESSED TO ACCEPT OFFICE AGAIN.

THREE OTHER NOMINATIONS.

CR. PLANT ELECTED.

A special meeting of the Northcote town council was held last Monday night for the purpose of filling the office of mayor, vice Cr. Tharratt resigned. The whole of the councillors were in attendance.

Cr. Smith moved that Cr. Plant take the chair. Cr. Mitchell seconded.- Carried.

Cr. Plant, in taking the chair, said that before proceeding to take nominations for the office he would, as an act of courtesy to their late mayor, move that Cr. Tharratt allow himself to be nominated for the position, and, in doing so, he requested him (Cr. Tharratt) not to express an opinion on the motion till he had heard the views of councillors. He would say the office had never been more ably filled than when Cr. Tharratt was in the chair.

Cr. Bastings had pleasure in seconding the resolution, and thought that Cr. Tharratt should have no hesitation in accepting the position after the [illegible] mayor.

Cr. [illegible] supported the same and hoped that Cr. Tharratt would see his way to complete the unexpired portion of his term. While acting as mayor Cr. Tharratt had brought many matters to finality that had been hanging fire for years.

Cr. McIntosh remarked that he would be very pleased if Cr. Tharratt would accept the position again.

Cr. Smith was of the opinion that Cr. Tharratt should resume office. He had always done his duty and given satisfaction to the majority.

Cr. Hayes said that Cr. Tharratt (as mayor) had charge of many important matters, which may be delayed if a change took place. For that reason he thought it would be better for Cr. Tharratt to continue as if nothing had happened.

Cr. Candy would like to see Cr. Tharratt take the mayorship again and to rule with a firm hand. The council was very much like a menagerie. There were some docile spirits like Cr. Smith—(laughter)—and some ready to kick out—(laughter)—but they only required keeping in their place.

Cr. Harry considered it hardly fair to ask Cr. Tharratt to take the position again. He (Cr. Tharratt) told them at the last meeting that he had his resignation under consideration for the last six weeks. But whatever were his reasons for resigning he thought they were brought to a climax last Monday week. He had only praise to offer of the manner in which Cr. Tharratt had performed the duties of mayor, but after what had taken place he thought that some councillors would be stultifying their position if they re-elected him as mayor. He was sorry to have to take that view after the very able way Cr. Tharratt had filled the office of mayor during the last 18 months.

Cr. Bambridge said they had all received fair play from Cr. Tharratt, and he would like to see him returned as mayor.

Cr. Williams said that Cr. Tharratt had filled the mayoral chair with great credit and dignity to himself and he was sure with the approval of the ratepayers. For that reason it would afford him much pleasure to see the ex-mayor re-elected.

Cr. Robb said that on principle he could not support the motion. In his speech last Monday Cr. Tharratt had castigated him (Cr Robb) and other councillors by stating that there were councillors who had the will but not the fibre to act. Who, he would ask, were the councillors who had the will but not the fibre that were "egging" him on? Was there one councillor present who ever "egged" him on to do any single action? There was not one. He therefore considered reflections of that character were an insult to the gentlemen sitting in that chamber and altogether out of place. They would find that he would never pass his responsibilities over to another man, whatever the occasion might be, and while he would always be willing to respect and obey the chair, whoever the occupant might be, he could never record his vote in favor of re-electing Cr. Tharratt as mayor.

Cr. Archbold said that he never had any wish to be offensive, and if his remarks had been taken that way it was because he had not expressed himself clearly. While he always had the highest regard for Cr. Tharratt he would like to know, before recording his vote, whether he (Cr. Tharratt) included him in the clique who had the will but not the fibre to give free expression to their views. If Cr. Tharratt would say that these words did not apply to him he would gladly support his re-election, but if, on the other hand, they had reference to him he would feel obliged to vote against the motion.

Cr. Little, in supporting the motion, considered that the council had altogether overworked Cr. Tharratt, and being run down in health he wasper-haps a little "touchy" and inclined to construe molehills into mountains. He had always found him very courteous and an unbiassed chairman and he would like to see him back again.

The chairman, addressing Cr. Tharratt, said:—You have heard the expressions of councillors. Only three are opposed to the motion. Are you prepared to accept office and complete the term for which you were elected?

Cr. Tharratt said that in compliance with the chairman's wish he had refrained from speaking. At the same time he felt sorry the discussion had taken place. Perhaps Cr. Little summed up the situation when he said that through his being run down he had become over sensitive with a tendency to magnify his troubles. He came into the council determined to do his share of the work with the same attention as he would give to his own business and in doing so he had endeavored to run perfectly straight. He did not want to occupy the position of mayor again, but he would continue to give every attention to his duties as a councillor. Cr. Robb and himself had shaken hands—they had come together in a manly fashion—and there was nothing to prevent them from working together in the interests of the ward and the town.

FURTHER NOMINATIONS.

The chairman then said that he would take nominations for the position of mayor.

Cr. Candy said he had pleasure in nominating Cr. Plant, who was one of their best councillors and at present chairman of the finance committee.

Cr. Mitchell seconded the motion.

Cr. Plant said he would like to ask Cr. Hayes if he would take the mayorship. They would recollect that in August last Cr. Hayes was prepared to accept the position and there was a kind of unwritten law that the unsuccessful aspirant should receive the office the following year. If Cr. Hayes would accept nomination he (Cr. Plant) would withdraw in his favor.

Cr. Hayes thanked Cr. Plant for his consideration. As they all knew Mrs. Hayes had not been well for some time, and would be unable for a couple of months at least to attend to social or public matters. In these circumstances he would prefer to wait till next August.

Cr. Harry nominated Cr. Woolhouse. He stated that Cr. Plant had occupied the position for five years, which was more than any other councillor had done.

At this stage Cr. Plant asked that another chairman be appointed, and Cr. Tharratt was voted to the chair.

Cr. Harry, continuing, said that Cr. Woolhouse would accept the position, and always contended that [illegible] preferred [illegible] He disagreed with the practice of the council committing councillors to any man 12 months in advance, as it placed a candidate for the mayoral chair in a false position, for the reason that it was possible to elect five new councillors each year, all of whom would be free to vote as they liked. Cr. Plant had had a full share of office and had performed his duties satisfactorily. He had no complaint against Cr. Plant while in the chair, but until lately there were three councillors at the table who Cr. Plant refused to recognise or speak to outside the chamber. They were Crs. Archbold, Bainbridge, and himself. Now it was proposed to place a man in the chair who passed certain councillors by as if they were dirt. All things being equal a councillor who has not held the position should be given the first opportunity. Cr. Woolhouse, he was sure, would fill the position with credit.

Cr. Archbold said that it did not trouble him whether Cr. Plant passed him unnoticed or not, but why Cr. Plant should hanker after the position of mayor year after year he could not for the life of him tell—neither could the majority of the ratepayers. He believed that if a ratepayer was competent to fill the position of councillor that councillor was eligible to act as mayor. Cr. Plant had held the position five times and he should give some other councillor a chance to occupy the office. If Cr. Plant consulted his own common-sense and judgment he would in all fairness stand down.

Cr. Robb hoped that Cr. Plant would allow his name to be withdrawn.

Cr. Plant—I will leave myself in the hands of the council.

Cr. Robb (continuing) said he held the view that the office should go round and that every councillor should be afforded an opportunity of attaining to the mayoral chair providing there was nothing to reflect against his personal character. If Cr. Plant accepted the position it would give color to the remarks made when Cr. Tharratt resigned, namely, that Cr. Plant was to have the position. People were "offering the odds" on Cr. Plant. (Laughter).

Cr. Smith—That shows the quality of the man.

Cr. Robb (continuing) said it would be wiser and more discreet for Cr. Plant to retire at the present time. Cr. Tharratt had said that any councillor who would take the position of mayor a second time was a glutton—(laughter)—yet Cr. Tharratt himself did not hesitate to take it a second time (Laughter). But what a fearful glutton a man must be who was ready to take office for the sixth time. (Laughter). He would like to see all councillors in turn occupying the position and their portraits adorning the walls of the chamber like those that were there now.

Cr. Smith said that he would like to see Cr. Woolhouse in the chair, but was it fair to ask a councillor with only 18 months experience to fill the position for a paltry five months. He would much prefer to see Cr. Woolhouse elected for a full term. Then, again, the condition of their finances required a man of larger experience at the head in order to keep down their constantly increasing overdraft. If they selected an unbroken colt he was afraid that he would never get through the work, and for that reason he would support the nomination of Cr. Plant, whom they all knew to be an able man.

Cr. Plant said that the reason why he was not on good terms with Cr. Harry was too painful to disclose.

Cr. Harry—State your reason.

Cr. Plant (continuing) said as for Cr. Archbold they both seemed tarred with the same brush, but they understood one another in the council. Then Cr. Bainbridge's name had been mentioned. All he need say was that he bore him no ill-will even though he did not speak to him.

Cr. Hayes said he had always contended the position should go round, and he would be false to his representations if he did not support a new man for the position. He would, therefore, vote for Cr. Woolhouse.

Cr. Bainbridge said that both as councillor and mayor, Cr. Plant was a tip top man. For all that he believed in a change and would support a new man from the centre of the town.

The chairman—Is there anyone in the centre of the town prepared to take it?

Cr. Bainbridge—Cr. Williams will take it.

Cr. Williams—No; Mr. chairman, I cannot accept a third offer.

Cr. Candy expressed himself favorable to the position going round, but regarded the present appointment as merely filling a gap. If a new man were put into the position he should be re-elected in August next, just as Cr. Plant was after ex-Cr. Parsons' unexpired term. He would not support Cr. Plant in August next if there was any other candidate for the position.

Cr. Tharratt said that as the term was only for five months he thought it would be better for an old councillor to occupy the chair Then they could elect Cr. Hayes in August next, and Cr. Woolhouse could follow him.

Cr. McIntosh favored a more experienced man than Cr. Woolhouse, and nominated Cr. Smith.

Cr. Bainbridge seconded.

Cr. Mitchell said that the third nomination complicated matters, and he would like to see one of the three withdraw, otherwise their mayor would be elected on a minority vote.

Cr. Hayes moved that an exhaustive ballot be taken.

Cr. Mitchell seconded.

The chairman, after conferring with the town clerk, said that the Local Government Act did not provide for an exhaustive ballot, and it could only be taken if councillors were unanimous.

Cr. Bastings wished to know whether Cr. Smith intended to go to the vote.

Cr. Harry said that he would insist on an open ballot.

Cr. Smith said rather than cause any hitch he would withdraw.

Cr. Hayes contended that the only sensible system under the circumstances was an exhaustive ballot.

The chairman—The election must either be by show of hands or exhaustive ballot, but councillors must be unanimous if the latter system is adopted.

Cr. Harry refused to give way and it was decided to proceed with the election by show of hands.

The chairman—Do I understand that Cr. Smith has withdrawn?

A councillor—He can't withdraw without the consent of his nominators.

Consent was forthcoming and Cr. Smith withdrew remarking that he had only allowed himself to be nominated in order to save the position.

A vote, by show of hands, was then taken, which resulted in Cr. Plant's election.

The voting was as follows:—For Cr. Plant—Crs. Candy, Smith, McIntosh, Bastings, Williams, Mitchell, and Tharratt. For Cr. Woolhouse—Crs. Bainbridge, Little, Archbold, Harry, Robb, and Hayes.

Cr. Candy then moved that Cr. Plant be mayor for the balance of the term. Cr. Mitchell seconded. Carried.

Cr. Tharratt having invested Cr. Plant with the mayoral robes, Cr. Plant said that under ordinary circumstances he would have been pleased with the office, but under the extraordinary circumstances he had reason for regret. He intended to be firm in his ruling and hoped to give satisfaction as heretofore. He would endeavour to do his duty and would try and put a stop to the bickering that existed so that the business would be conducted with credit to themselves and credit to the town.

THE MAYORAL RESIGNATION

A PROTEST MEETING.

A public meeting of ratepayers "to resent the action of the late mayor when resigning from that position in casting reflections on a number of ratepayers and their representatives in the council," was held at the Croxton recreation reserveon Tuesday night. There was a gathering of about 200 present, made up principally of residents of the northern wards, but containing also a good sprinkling from the whole of the other wards. Amongst those present was the new mayor (Cr. Plant) and Crs. Williams and Hayes.

Mr. G. Henderson, who presided, moved the first resolution—

"That in the opinion of this meeting of ratepayers Crs Robb, Woolhouse, and Archbold, who were so unjustifiably attacked, possess the entire confidence of the ratepayers, and that they be requested to continue their efforts on our behalf."

Mr Henderson said they felt it right that the unwarrantable action of the ex mayor should not be allowed to pass without criticism, and also that they should do what they could to strengthen the hands of the representatives who had been attacked. They wished to indulge in no personalities, but only go in for fair criticism. Having heard and read their speeches he was puzzled to know the grounds for the accusations of Crs. Tharratt and Williams. When these gentlemen could not agree as to which of the two engineers submitted to them should be appointed they should have referred the whole matter back to the council—(hear, hear)—and not draw in only two others, one of whom had been discarded because of what Cr. Williams had previously said of him. That was the cause of the whole trouble.

Mr E. Tobin—Did they not draw in the whole of the names?

Mr Henderson—No.

Cr. Williams—Yes they did; that statement is not correct.

Mr Henderson—Crs Robb, Archbold and Woolhouse naturally criticised this action, and it was conduct that called for criticism. Cr. Robb had fought strongly for the principle that the whole matter should be decided by the council. But when the mayor said he had intended for 6 weeks to resign why should the whole cause of that resignation be made to appear the way Crs. Robb, Archbold and Woolhouse had criticised him re his and Cr. Williams' action with regard to the engineers? It appeared that they wanted to make a scapegoat of Cr. Robb. (Hear, hear). When Cr. Tharratt spoke of their representatives as "disturbing elements," and "determined to be offensive" it was time they stood up for them. (Hear, hear). He had known Cr. Robb for a long time and he had never known him to be underhand, offensive or unfair. After hearing the true facts they must agree that there was nothing to justify the assault which had been made upon him, and they should show him and the others by their votes what they thought of them.

Mr. H. R. Smith rose to second the resolution.

Mr. E. Tobin—I would like to ask one question to clear the atmosphere. I understand that the whole of the candidates were brought in for selection. Is that so or were only two brought in?

Cr. Plant (mayor)—That is not correct. (Coming towards the platform) Would you allow me to make a statement?

Voices from the platform—No; you are a ratepayer to-night.

Mr. H. R. Smith—Ladies and gentlemen, give Mr. Smith a show. (Laughter.) Mr. Smith, proceeding, said he was there not to say nasty things, but for "fair dinkum." (Laughter.) Cr. Tharratt complained of cliques, but what sort of a clique must he have got into that so changed his attitude on the tram question. He (Cr. Tharratt) made a splendid mayor in his (the speaker's) opinion, but why should he turn round and resign and abuse such men as Cr. Robb, whose career you must respect—and Cr. Woolhouse, who was not such a bad sort. Let them take a vote of the children on that. (Laughter.) When Cr. Tharratt got the position of mayor it was by Cr. Woolhouse's vote, but when Cr. Woolhouse stood for the position it was Cr. Tharratt's vote put him out. There was consistency for them. And what did Cr. Tharratt mean by "clean hands." Did he mean he never "shook" anything. (Laughter.) He did not hold with his resignation as mayor. If he found his position untenable why not "toss in his alley" altogether—why leave a dirty smirge behind. He believed he was now sorry for what he had done.

At this stage the speaker was subjected to some interruption. Pausing a little and fixing his eye on the interjector Mr. Smith said half in a friendly way, half threateningly—"Now look here Bill, you know I can chuck 'em back just as good as you can."

Mr. Smith then seconded the motion and resumed his seat.

The chairman here said he desired to explain that after disagreeing on the two Cr. Tharratt brought in two or three others for the final selection.

Cr. Plant—State the whole circumstances.

Mr. H. Beard, ex-M.L.A., said he had been asked to support a later resolution, but he could not do that. He was there to support Cr. Robb, whom he had known for 20 years and yet never known him to do a dishonourable action. (Applause). When he heard that Cr. Tharratt had resigned he thought Cr. Robb must have done something very serious, but when he went to the council meeting and heard the whole thing he could not for the life of him see any reason for the resignation or for the extravagant language of Crs. Tharratt and Williams respecting Cr. Robb and other councillors. If a mayor was going to resign because of a little opposition, and if they were not going to uphold those who offered healthy criticism it was time the council shut up altogether. (Hear, hear). He (Mr. Beard) considered Crs. Robb, Archbold and Woolhouse were quite justified in venting their displeasure at the action taken by the mayor and Cr. Williams. Cr. Tharratt's remarks as to Cr. Robb only representing 5½ per cent. of the ratepayers was also uncalled for. He (Cr. Robb) held his seat by the vote of a majority of the ratepayers in his ward, which was just what Cr. Tharratt himself and other councillors did. Therefore in reflecting on Cr. Robb in the way he did he reflected on the ratepayers who sent him there. As far as he had seen at the council meetings Cr. Robb's demeanour towards the chair was all that could be desired. Of course he was not present at the committee meeting.

The resolution was then put and carried with only two or three dissentients, but not half of those present voted.

Mr. W. J. Field moved the second resolution—

"That this meeting of ratepayers considers the reasons stated by Cr. Tharratt for resigning the position of Mayor of the Town of Northcote are unconvincing, insufficient, and unwarranted, and that his action was a childish one."

Mr. Field said he had no desire to say anything against Cr. Tharratt as an individual. He believed him to be a good citizen and up to a certain point his conduct of the mayoralty was all that could be desired; but he was there, as a member of Cr. Tharratt's election committee, in the interests of fair play. Cr. Robb had been held up as a municipal rogue elephant, and it was time that those who knew him best came forward and removed the unpleasant impression which the ex-mayor had created in regard to him. After hearing Cr. Tharratt's statement he could only say—"Good gracious, what has he resigned for?" Cr. Robb was a courteous and affable gentleman of considerable ability, and if that was a "disturbing element" let them not stop till they had got 15 such disturbing elements—(Hear, hear)—and they would have the town bouncing along and be much more proud of it than they are at present. Cr. Tharratt also insulted other councillors by saying they were "egged on" by Cr. Robb. The mayor admitted smiling at Cr. Robb when he denounced the principle on which it was proposed to make the appointment and Cr. Robb had said "You are unworthy to occupy that position because you are not impartial." That was the reason of his resigning, a very trivial one. If Cr. Tharratt had been so disgracefully treated as he would have them infer why did not other councillors, some of whom he saw present, not get up and defend him. They were either contemptible cowards or there was nothing to protest against. He was inclined to take the latter view. Cr. Tharratt had come out of the discreditable scene in the council with his reputation lowered, but Cr. Robb had had his enhanced. Cr. Tharratt's over-sensitiveness or want of experience of public life had led him into a childish act of resigning.

Mr. Charles Hooke seconded the motion, stating he fully endorsed all that Mr. Field had said.

Ex-Cr. Pearl, in supporting the motion, said Cr. Tharratt appeared to have been in the position of the police court lawyer—"No case, abuse the other side." The speaker also resented Cr. Tharratt's remarks about "clean hands," &c., and said he was satisfied that no councillor could have done better work than Cr. Robb had done.

The resolution was then put and carried.

On the motion of Messrs Durham and Feely, a further resolution was carried that the resolutions be forwarded to the local and metropolitan Press.

This having been also carried,

Mr. E. Tobin asked if the other side would be given a chance to justify themselves.

Mr. Feely—This is a meeting for protest not justification.

The chairman said it was for "the other side" to call a meeting of their own.

After a vote of thanks to the chairman the meeting closed, three cheers being called and given for Cr. Robb.

What Professional Nurses Say of Bile Beans.

Next to advice direct from a physician is that of thoroughly qualified Nurse. Not infrequently, indeed, based as it is on long and careful observation of innumerable cases the Nurse's advice is equally to be relied upon. Nurse Baldwin, residing at 106 Bourke Street, Woolloomooloo, Sydney, says:—"Some years ago my health broke up through over work and worry. My liver was sluggish in its action, and I suffered from constipation, indigestion, and debility. Several doctors prescribed for me, but I derived no benefit from their treatment. I also tried several medicines advertised as a cure for my complaints, but still failed to improve in health. Bile Beans were recommended by a friend. Their effect was marvellous from the first few doses, and I was quickly restored to health. Have recommended them to scores of my patients, and in each case they have derived great benefit."

Nurse Lomax, who resides at 3 Federal Street, Footscray, Melbourne, writes:—"For fully ten years I was a great sufferer from biliousness in a very acute form. Many were the so-called remedies I tried, but none of them did me the least good. I gave Bile Beans a trial, and derived such benefit from the first few doses that I determined to undergo a course of this medicine. Biliousness soon became a worry of the past, and an occasional dose of Bile Beans is all I require to keep me in perfect health."

Nurse Metcalfe, of 32 Heydon Street, Auckland, says:—"I have much pleasure in acknowledging the benefits I and my family have derived from Bile Beans. They cured me of Biliousness and Indigestion, and as a Professional Nurse, I have recommended them to patients with beneficial results."

If you suffer from Indigestion, Biliousness, Constipation, Headache, Wind, Nausea, Debility, Anæmia, or Stomach trouble, Bile Beans will quickly put you right. Price 1/1½ and 2/9 per box, of all Chemists and Stores.

PLAYGROUND MISHAP.

A Schoolmistress Praises Zam-Buk.

Revelling in the rough and healthy games dear to the youthful heart, mishaps in the playground are frequent, and grazed knees, barked shins, bruised legs, cuts, scratches, and gashes befall the boisterous youngsters in quick succession. The scholars of Miss Mathams' private school, of Latrobe Terrace, Paddington, Brisbane, are no exception to the rule, but Miss Mathams has the welfare of the children so much at heart, that she keeps a handy pot of Zam-Buk always in the school to soothe the painful bruise, heal the stinging graze, or stop the bleeding of a smarting cut. This pleasant and natural healer is a favorite with all the children, and whenever a mishap occurs the cry is "Zam-Buk." Miss Mathams says:—I think your Zam-Buk is just splendid. I have used it chiefly for the children of a private school under my tuition, and find it of great value when any of them fall and cut and graze their hands or knees, as children so often do at play. On these occasions they come to me at once for an application of Zam-Buk Balm, and it always stops the bleeding, soothes the pain, allays the irritation, and heals their wound very quickly. Zam-Buk is a favorite with the children, and I always keep a supply for 'first aid' use." Every mother should be wise and keep a pot of Zam-Buk always handy. Cuts, Bruises scalds, Eczema, Piles and Ulcers, Bad Legs, and in fact all skin affections, fly before Zam-Buk's wonderful healing virtues. From chemists and stores in every town, at 1/6, or 3/6 family pot (containing nearly four times as much).

Dress and Fashion.

MISS GRINDLAY
DRESSMAKER,
(Late of George & George),
"RAVENNA," DERBY AVENUE,
UPPER NORTHCOTE,
rear Kimberley Hall.
Evening and Wedding Dresses a Speciality.

Miss E. Bown,
DRESSMAKER,
"Cragielea," corner Robert & Mason Sts.,
NORTHCOTE SOUTH
(near Clarke St).

AFTER Saturday, 20th February, 1909, Miss Bown will carry on Dressmaking at her private address (see above), instead of 94 High St.

A trial solicited. Charges moderate.

Announcements.

ARE YOU
LOOKING FOR
Real Good Footwear?

THEN
MRS. POLLOCK'S
FEDERAL BOOT SHOP,
529 HIGH ST., UPPER NORTHCOTE,
is the place to get suited.

No matter where you go you cannot get better goods at such prices.

EXTENSIVE STOCK TO CHOOSE FROM.

A TRIAL SOLICITED.

NERO FIDDLES
WHILE
ROME BURNS.

I suppose he was insured against Fire.

You may fiddle while your
HOME BURNS
if it is insured in the
London Assurance
NO FEAR OF EXTINCTION.
Funds, £4,000,000.

Cr. R. ARCHBOLD, Victorian Manager.
ERNEST LEES, Local Agent

Mrs. Brosnan
DESIRES to notify that she has opened
TEA ROOMS
at
591 HIGH STREET, PRESTON
(opposite old library).

Famous I.X.L. Ice Cream. Soft Drinks and Confectionery.

Also Cooked Meats and Small Goods of the very best.

Patronage respectfully solicited.

COOPER'S,
HIGH STREET, PRESTON,
for
ICE CREAM, SUMMER DRINKS, and CONFECTIONERY.

MISS I. THOMPSON, St. George's Rd., Northcote (corner Morley Street), FRUIT, CONECTIONERY, and FANCY GOODS. Fresh Fruit direct from our own orchard at Ardmona.

MISS THOMPSON (same address), DRESSMAKER.

W. NEWMAN,
MANUFACTURER OF
PLASTER AND CEMENT ORNAMENTS.

No. 223 BEAVER'S ROAD, NORTHCOTE.

Close to St. George's Road.

Established 21 years.
Carl Oldenburg,
SADDLE, HARNESS, AND COLLAR MAKER,
365 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE
(opposite Brickworks).

Whips, Bits, Sponges, and other Stable Requisites in stock.

Secondhand Harness taken in exchange or bought.

Repairs neatly and promptly executed.

Notice to the Public.

HAVING now purchased the late B. T. JAMES' NURSERY, Union Street, Northcote, I am now prepared to supply at lowest rates—Hardy Ornamental Shade Trees and Plants of all kinds, Climbing and Twining Plants, Plants for Hedges, &c.

ROSE in great variety.

FRUIT TREES of all kinds.

YOU ARE INVITED TO INSPECT

C. J. Jackson,
UNION STREET NORTHCOTE.

PLANTS & SEEDLINGS,
ROSES, CARNATIONS, &c.,
at Lowest Prices.

COME and SEE the ROSES in Bloom Everybody welcome.

BAILTON BROS.,
PRESTON NURSERY, RAGLAN ST.,
SOUTH PRESTON.

ARTISTIC FLORAL WORK of every description. Also hall and other Decorations.—MISS JACKSON, Clarke St., Northcote.

Notices

C. A. Stephenson
Notifies the Public of Preston that he has opened as a
FRUITERER
and
GREENGROCER
in new premises opposite the Shire Hall, High St.

All goods will be found fresh and of superior quality.

Soft Drinks of every description.

Confectionery a Speciality.

Visitors to Shire Hall please bear this in mind.

F. C. CORNISH
& Co.,
Cash Grocers,
255 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.

7olb. bag best 1A Sugar, 13/
25lb. bag best Flour, 2/4½
Best New Currants, 5½d lb.
" " Sultanas, 7½d lb.
" " Lemon Peel, 6½d
" " Raisins, 6d lb.
Mildura " 4d lb.
Best soft shell Almonds, 9½d lb.
Raspberry Vinegar, 6d, 10½d, and 1/ bot.
1lb. boxes Muscatel Raisins, 1/ box
Best Preserved Ginger, 7½d lb.
Preserved Pineapples, 5½d tin
" Apricots (Hoadley's), 7½d tin
Hoadley's dark Plum Jam, 5½d tin
" Tomato Sauce, 5½d bottle
Table Jellies, 10½d doz.
Flavoring Essences, 4½d bottle
Barcelona Nuts, 7½d lb.
Plum Puddings, 10½d, 1/4½, 2/3 tin

P.S.—There is no better place to get your wants supplied than

CORNISH'S.

W. Kitson,
PAINTER AND PAPERHANGER,
84 Charles Street,
NORTHCOTE SOUTH.

Superior Workmanship and none but the best materials used.

Estimates Given.

Rooms Papered with Art Paper from 4l.

Those contemplating getting their houses renovated cannot do better than consult the above.

Wanted to Buy.

BOTTLES, Bones, Rags, Zinc, Lead, Brass and Copper. Highest price, given. Cash on delivery. Letters receive promptattention. H. Bishop, Darebin Rd., Northcote.

Business Notices.

TELEPHONE 2906.

A. THARRATT & CO.,
Furnishing & Builders' Ironmongers,
HIGH & SEPARATION Sts., NORTHCOTE.

PAINTS,
Oils, Colors, Leads, Harland's Varnishes, Siennas, Umbers, Hessian, and materials on hand.
Cheapest in Northcote.
Large stock of Brushes, Sash Tools, Oval Ground Calcimo, Lime, etc.

COPPERS.
We supply the well known Seamless Coppers, made in one piece, never leak.
Also Portable Coppers, complete, with frame, chimney, & grate. From 10 gallon upwards. Cheap.
Please inspect.

Authorised Depot for
SEWERAGE FITTINGS.
Tested.
Bends, Ties, Elbows, Pipes, &c.

WATER PIPE.
Galvanised, ½ in. or ¾ in., also fittings for same.
Large stock of Bib Taps, &c.

STOVES, OVENS, GRATES.
Latest designs.
Iron Chimneys. Baths, 24 inch guage iron, very best.
2 Division Wash Troughs, cheap.
"Bobs" Cooking Stoves for wood or coal, economical and durable.
Wire Fencing, Barbed Wire, Netting, for sale, cheap.
24 x 2, 36 x 2, 48 x 2, 72 x 2, all guages.

GALVANISED IRON,
"Redcliff" brand,
Best and Cheapest.
Spouting, Ridging, Down Pipe.
Queen's Head Galvanised Plain Iron, 3ft., 2ft. 6in., 2ft. x 24, 26, 28 guage.

THARRATT'S SAW MILL.
All kinds of Joinery done for the trade Sawing, &c.

FIREWOOD.
Coke, Coal, Stove Wood, Mixed Blocks at lowest rates.

Houses Furnished.

RENDLE & SONS,
244-246 SMITH STREET,
COLLINGWOOD.

80 Diningroom Suites, all prices
70 Bedroom " "
60 Sideboards "

200 Rolls of Linoleums, Oilcloths and Carpets just imported. Splendid Patterns.

We keep Everything in House Furnishing.

CASH or TERMS:

£3	worth for	1/-	weekly
£6	"	2/-	"
£8	"	2/6	"
£12	"	3/-	"
£15	"	3/6	"
£20	"	5/-	"

Rendle & Sons 244-246 Smith St., Collingwood
Phone 3887.

E. FELLOWES,
COACHBUILDER

AND
SHOEING FORGE
HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE
(Opposite Croxton station).

IF YOU WANT to purchase a cheap & good Vehicle.
IF YOU WANT your Vehicle repaired expeditiously and faithfully.
IF YOU WANT your Horse sent for, shod on the shortest notice and returned.
IF YOU WANT to exchange your old Vehicle.
Call on the above who is prepared to deal liberally with you.
He has one of the largest Coachbuilding Factories in Melbourne and suburbs, a large and efficient staff of workmen and up-to-date plant.
What more can be desired by a customer?

W. WOOLHOUSE & CO.,
Sheffield Cutlers and Umbrella Manufacturers,
143-145 BOURKE ST. EAST
(Above Russell St.)

LINES BY A LONGFELLOW.

To Woolhouse & Co. I advise you to go,
Umbrellas they make and their prices are low;
Whilst in quality, too, the public still know
No Cutlers here please them like Woolhouse and Co.
In the whole of Melbourne nought better you'll find,
Than their Optical Goods of every kind.
Fine Eye-Glasses they've got to suit people's eyes,
And Goggles to keep out the dust and the flies.
In Spectacles truly none better could be,
They've oft caused the blind, or next to it, to see.
Whilst in Scissors and Razors their stock is immense,
Manufactured by Woolhouse—they've spared no expense,
Of Knives they have millions of every grade,
From Woolhouse they come—they're the best that are made,
For pocket or vest, large, medium or small,
Just fit for the parlour, the kitchen or hall;
Some are pretty to look at, most beautiful toys,
Nice presents to give to your girls and your boys.
Others have Seventy Blades and cause quite a start [Art.
At the triumph they show in the Cutlery
Don'ts carve with blunt knives which wives tempers will try,
It will pay you far better new Carvers buy.
Or if you prefer to have them well ground
Then Woolhouse will make the poor cripple quite sound.
At Woolhouse & Co.'s there grinding is done
You'll find them hard at it from rise of the sun;
And the work that you give them—They Never Delay!
Repairing they do in the very best way.
Your Walking Stick broken—neat ferrules they've got, [spot
They mend it and make it all right on the
Your old Umbrella which lets the wet thro',
They'll cover with silk and make Equal to New;
Your Razors, your Shears, your Knives may be found
So blunt that they need to be properly ground,
Then hie you at once to Woolhouse & Co.
For tradesmen are they, and their charges are low.

For Easy & Comfortable Shaving Try Woolhouse's Latest Magnetic Steel Razors.

Printing!
Promptly Executed in the . . . . .
Brightest and Most Effective Style .
At the LEADER office, Northcote .
Charges Moderate.

Carpenters.

W. Gribble,
CARPENTER and JOINER,
HOUSE REPAIRER.
231 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE
(near Methodist Church).

Saws, Scissors, Razors and Lawn Mowers Set and Sharpened.
Venetian Blinds Painted, Re-Taped and Corded.
Vienna Chairs and Furniture Repaired and Stained like New.
Picture Framing, Fly Wire Doors, and Household Requirements in Wood.

Announcements

PUBLIC NOTICE.

J. McNamara,
the old established
PRESTON BAKER,

BEGS to announce that he has now OPENED his
NEW and UP-TO-DATE BREAD FACTORY
in Plenty Road, near corner of Bell Street, where he will be able to serve customers better not only in the matter of the "STAFF OF LIFE," but in all kinds of
PASTRY and SMALL GOODS.

A TRIAL SOLICITED.

Alfred Rose,
CARRIAGE BUILDER
and
WHEELWRIGHT,
Has commenced business n
HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE,
opposite Brickworks.

Vehicles of every description built to order, including Expresses, Abbot Buggies, Jinkers of any design, Bakers' Waggons, Grocers' Carts, and all Trade Vehicles in Latest Style.

First-class Materials and Best Workmanship at Lowest Prices.

A TRIAL SOLICITED.

ALFRED ROSE.

Your Success!
Depends upon the condition of your health and the activity of your mind. You cannot afford to DRINK any but THE BEST of BEVERAGES.
HING'S TEAS
Are ABSOLUTELY the BEST.
The Golden Canister can supply your wants and save your pocket at the same time.
ALL TEAS supplied by W. Q. HING can be relied upon to be THE BEST.
SPECIAL.
ART CHINA in endless variety and unique designs. Suitable for Wedding Presents and Christmas Boxes.
Afternoon Tea Sets from 5/4. 40-piece Tea Sets, 13/11.
Wholesale & Retail Depot—
90 HIGH STREET,
NORTHCOTE SOUTH.

FOR CATCHY & UP-TO-DATE
PRINTING
SEND YOUR ORDERS TO THE
Leader Office,
NORTHCOTE.

LOON KEE,
CHINESE LAUNDRY,
216 High St., Northcote.
Washing and Laundry Orders attended to. Good Workmanship and Polish Guaranteed.
Prices Moderate.
White Shirt, ironed and washed, 4d
" ironed only, 3d
Collars ironed only, 9d per doz.
Collar washed and ironed, 1d
Shirts sent for and returned.

FIRST-CLASS CHINESE LAUNDRY
AH HAY,
HIGH STREET, THORNBURY
(next Best, Draper.

Milk Suppliers.

PRESTON DAIRY,
GOWER ST., PRESTON.
M. Walsh,
Cowkeeper and Dairyman.
Cattle and Premises under inspection of the Board of Public Health.
Pure Milk Direct from the Cow to the Consumer. Strippings and One Cow's Milk - Speciality. Absolutely free from coloring matter or preservatives.
No second dealing or with other traders.
Deliveries twice ally in Northcote and surroundings.

F. W. LUPSON
NOTIFIES the public that he has purchased and taken over the
"ACME" DAIRY,
HENRY ST., NORTHCOTE,
from which customers can rely upon getting
MILK
that is
ABSOLUTELY PURE
the supply being obtained from specially selected herds in the country districts.

A card to the "Acme" Dairy, Helen St. and the carts will call.

IF your business is falling off, do not allow it to drift.
ADVERTISE and regain it.