Northcote Leader.

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

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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1909.

Printed and published by the proprietor, R. B. WHALLEY, at their office, 297 High street, Northcote, in the State of Victoria.

Price 1d

A. K. BOSISTO'S "Parrot Brand" Eucalyptus Oil. SOLD EVERYWHERE

Kruse's Fluid Magnesia

MELB. PUBLIC LIBRARY 4 DEC 1909 OF VICTORIA

MELB. PUBLIC LIBRARY 4 DEC 1909 VICTORIA

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. Sole Agent for Northcote of Celebrated Sickle Brand of RETORTED CHARCOAL.

A. WATSON'S

HAY & CORN STORE
Wood & Coke Yard,
is at
354 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.

J. KIDD,

Hay & Corn, Wood & Coal Merchant,
480 High Street, Northcote,
HAS ON SALE—
Chaff, Oats, Bran, Pollard, Wheat, Maize, Lucerne Chaff,

And all kinds of Poultry Feed.

Agent for Singer's and Pratt's Poultry Food.

Best Box Blocks, Maitland and Pelaw Main Coal.

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.

Ladies' Costumes a Speciality.

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,
Bells Reliable Levers, Gold, Silver, Gun Metal.
Private Address: 36 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 1854.

W. GAPPS,
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—321 Victoria St.,
Tel. 960. WEST MELB.
High Street, Northcote.
Queen's Parade, Clifton Hill.
Tel. 2776.
All Funeral arrangements promptly attended to.
Charges Moderate | Terms Arranged

FIRST-CLASS CHINESE LAUNDRY
AH HAY,
HIGH STREET, THORNBURY
(near Best, Draper.

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.

Note J. T. COLES & Co.'s "Cole" Strike Prices.

25lbs. Brunton's Flour, 2/10½; 150 Test Kerosene, 3/1½ tin; New Pine Apples, 5d tin; Morton's Bloater Paste, 2½d; Morton's Fresh Herrings, 3½d; Quart Bottle Sauce, 4½d; Candles, 4½ pkt.; Sand Soap, 1½d; Table Tomatoes, 5½d tin; 2lbs. B. Currant Jam, 7d; 2lbs. Raspberry Jam, 7½d; 3 pkts. J.T.C. Flour, 1/; New Raisins, 3½lb lb.; Morton's Kippered Herrings, 4½d and 6½d; Morton's Herrings and Sauce, 4d and 6½d; O.F. Punch, 8d bot.; New Season Dates, 4½ lb.; Fruit or Plain Cake, 6d lb; Brockhoff's Rice, Mixed, Coffee or Ginger Nuts, 4d lb.; Table Jellies, 10½d doz; Custard Powders, 9d doz; Salmon, 4½d tin; Preserved Apricots, 7½; Pears, 8½; Peaches, 8½; Plums, 5½; 2 tins Quince Jam, 1/; Large Sardines, 4½ tin; 15 Bars Coon Soap, 1/; Cups and Wafers in stock; Prime Cheese, 6½ lb; Preserved Ginger, 7½ lb.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!
SEND YOUR LINEN TO THE
NORTHCOTE LAUNDRY
HIGH STREET (nearly opposite London Bank).
A VICTORIA HIGH-BOARD **IRONING MACHINE** USED,
which runs 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. PEAWLEY, Proprietress.

Smith's Sons
TRADE MARK REG'D
GOLD MEDALISTS
HAM & BACON CURERS
AND
Small Goods Manufacturers.
'Phone 3601. NORTHCOTE, Vic.

Champion & First Prize Winners for HAMS and BACON at the Royal Agricultural Show, Melb.
All Goods Manufactured under the supervision of the Central Board of Health.

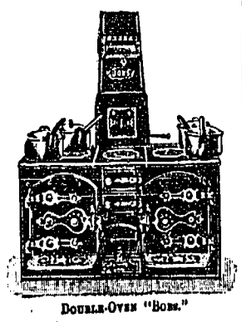
Our High-Class Goods
Are Noted throughout the Commonwealth for their
Savory, Delicious, & Appetising Quality
And are stocked by all Grocers and Dairy Produce Merchants.
Our Fritz & Frankforts are just the thing for the Tea & Breakfast Table.
FACTORY & OFFICE: "MERRIBANK," NORTHCOTE

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.

C. POWER,
Cartage Contractor,
37 CHARLES ST., NORTHCOTE.
Phone 311, Brunswick.
Lorrys, Drays, and Teams for all classes of Carting.
Back Loading from the City a Speciality.
COAL delivered to householders at lowest market rates.

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 Beadle Patent Cast Iron Revolving Washing Copper Frames, suitable for Policemen, Butchers, and ordinary household use.
Very Durable and Economical. Write for Catalogues.

WHAT IS ESSENTIAL
to add to your comfort during the summer months is
A GAS STOVE,
which will save you endless drudgery in the kitchen.

On rental at the rate of 1/6 per month, or—
On Hire Purchase System: Small deposit and from 2/- month.

A GAS STOVE is indispensable and also ensures EFFICIENCY, CLEANLINESS, and RIGID ECONOMY
COOKING BY GAS means a saving of half the labor necessary with other methods, besides keeping the kitchen clean and the temperature down to a minimum.
The Metropolitan Gas Company,
186 FLINDERS ST., MELBOURNE.
Phone Nos. 339, 389, 367, 2713.

Business Announcements

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

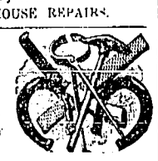
Men's Box Derby Bals., 8/11 | Boys' Box, strong wear, 10 to 13, 4/11
Men's knock at out Bals., 8/6 | Youths' strong leather, 1 to 5, 4/11
Youths' Box, strong wear, 1 to 5, 6/6 | Boys' strong leather, 10 to 13, 4/6

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.

Above is the well-known establishment of
F. PIKE, General House Decorator,
GRAINER, SIGNWRITER, &c.,
PLENTY ROAD, SOUTH PRESTON.
All kinds of Builders' Ironmongery, Lime, Cement, &c., stocked. Oils, Colors, Glass, &c. at Lowest Rates. The smallest as well as the largest jobs undertaken.
ESTIMATES GIVEN FOR ALL KINDS OF HOUSE REPAIRS.

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 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,
They mend it and make it all right on the spot
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 ble you at once to Woolhouse & Co.
For tradesmen are they, and their onarger are low.

For Easy & Comfortable Shaving Try Woolhouse's Latest Magnetic Steel Razors.

THE
Orient Marine & Stationary
3½ H.P. ENGINES 100 H.P.
Made for all Shipping and Farm Purposes.
Suppliers to the Victorian Government, Ports and Harbours, Health Department, Goldfields Diamond Drilling Co.
Guaranteed for 12 Months.
Particulars on application to
C. S. DEAN,
Motor Manufacturer, Mentone.
CASH or TERMS. Phone 71 Cheltenham.

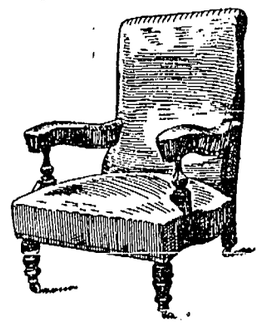
A Trio of Specials

No matter what your purchase from CLAUSCEN'S might be, you can always rely on getting the best workmanship and materials at the lowest possible price. Our 25 years' reputation as Melbourne's Leading House Furnishers stands behind every article we sell. The chairs illustrated are splendid value at the prices—strongly and well put together—artistic, comfortable, and durable—chairs that will give satisfaction.

Splendid Easy Chair, Handsomely upholstered in Tapestry, £2 2 6. Saddlebags, £2 5/. Art Serge Cretonne, £1 17/6.

Furniture for the Drawing Room, Dining Room, and Bedroom at CLAUSCEN'S.

Saddlebag Easy Chair, nicely upholstered in best saddlebag or Utrecht Velvet; numerous shapes and designs, £3 15/.



A splendidly-made chair, strong frame, nicely upholstered in Art Serge, Cretonne, £1 7/6; Tapestry or Saddlebag, £2

Clauscen & Co., Furnishing Arcade, 194-6 Bourke St., City.

RIDE A "MOA" CYCLE
SWIFT, LIGHT AND STRONG.
Covers, Tubes, Lamps, Pumps—all Makes and Prices.

We Leave all Others Behind!
Large Stock Secondhand Cycles. Repairs, Nickelling, &c.
Three Grades—
The Moa Special, The Moa No 2, The Moa No 3
£14 10s £12 10s £8 10s
BUILT AT THE
"Moa" Cycle Works, 218 High St., Northcote.
W. MERSON. Established 1894.

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.
Afternoon Tea Sets from 5/4. 40-piece Tea Sets, 13/11.
Wholesale & Retail Depot—
90 HIGH STREET,
NORTHCOTE SOUTH.

Nurses.

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. Heliers,"
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.

Announcements

PURE BRED POULTRY.
FIRST-CLASS LAYING STRAINS.
BROWN LEGHORN HENS,
Bred from Dookie Competition Pens, mated to cock imported by Mr. H. Bunneman.
Settings, 3/6 and 10/6.
SILVER WYANDOTTES,
Bred from Mr. Bunneman, Dookie Competition Winners.
Settings, 7/6. Unfertile replaced.
YOUNG STOCK FOR SALE.
Correspondence invited.
A. C. W. BAILEY.
WOLLERT, via EPPING.

Eggs! Eggs!! Eggs!!!
THE VICTORIAN EGG-LAYING COMPETITION.
Bastings Street, Northcote,
Under the auspices of "The Poultry and Kennel World."
A Real Object Lesson, the Latest and Most Up-to-Date Method of Poultry-Keeping.
2000 Birds can be kept on an acre on this system.
The Very Thing for Small Holders and Suburban Poultry-Keepers.
Admission 6d (Sunday excepted).
H. MCKENZIE, Manager,
"Burnette," Bastings St., Northcote.

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.

Carpenters.
W. Gribble,
CARPENTER and JOINER, HOUSE REPAIRER,
231 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE
(near Methodist Church).
Saws, Scissors, and Lawn Mowers Set and Sharpened.
Venetian Blinds Painted, Re-Taped and Corded.
Vienna Chairs and Furniture Repaired and Stained like New.
Household Requirements in Wood.

F. G. SMITH,
DRAPER, &c.,
245 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
The Supply Store for
BOY SCOUTS!

Best Scouts' Hats (with chin straps),	...	3/6
Best Navy Scouts' Shirts (all sizes)	...	2/11
Khaki Haversacks	...	1/6
Putties ...	...	1/6
Leather Belts ...	...	10½d
" Pouches	...	6d
Black Scarves ...	...	10½d
Knives and Lanyards	...	1/6
Blue Drill Knickers	...	1/11

Enquire for Prices of any other Lines.

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).

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.

Tailors

FOR UP-TO-DATE CLOTHING AND REAL GOOD VALUE
go to
INCE BROS.,
TAILORS & OUTFITTERS.
Suits from £3 3/. Trousers from 15/6
Ladies' Costumes a Specialty.
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 the utmost despatch.
Don't forget the only address—
"Our Tailors,"
VEREY & CROSS,
242 SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD.

Plenty Road and Garnet Sts.,
STH. PRESTON.
Arch. Wilkinson,
TAILOR
AND MERCER.
NEW GOODS for the Spring and Summer season just opened.
A choice variety of Suitings, Coatings, and Trouserings in all the Latest Shades.
Hats, Shirts, Ties and Hosiery in great variety.
Straw Hats—a special line—all the latest shapes in stock.
Suits to Order from £2 2/-
Cricketing Trousers to order from 12/6.
LADIES' COSTUMES A SPECIAL STUDY.

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. A Work Guaranteed.

Plumbers.
PUBLIC NOTICE.
J. DENYER,
LICENSED PLUMBER & GASFITTER
TINSMITH & IRONWORKER,
Next Wesleyan Schoolroom,
232 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE
Water Meters Fixed.
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

SEWERAGE!
IS YOUR HOUSE CONNECTED?
If not—
R. H. NELSON,
LICENSED SANITARY PLUMBER
and
SEWERAGE CONTRACTOR,
COLLINS STREET, THORNBURY
(Upper Northcote)
Will give you a GOOD, SOUND and RELIABLE JOB.
TWELVE MONTHS' GUARANTEE GIVEN EACH CONTRACT.
Post Cards promptly attended to.
Estimates for all classes of work submitted.

Water Meters Fixed.
JOHN SHAW,
(Licensed by M. & M. B. W.),
LICENSED PLUMBER,
GASFITTER,
ELECTRIC & WIRE BELLHANGER,
303 HIGH STREET,
NORTHCOTE.
Estimates Given for Sewer Connections.
Post Cards attended to.

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

Church Notices.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, NORTHCOTE.

Sunday Services:
11 a.m. and 7 p.m., Rev. A. C. KELLAWAY.

CROXTON METHODIST HALL, Corner Shaftesbury Parade and St. George's Road.

Sunday, 5th December.
7 p.m., Mr. W. WILLIAMS.
Sunday School at 2.30.

HOLY TRINITY, THORNBURY.

Second Sunday in Advent.
11 a.m., Matins and Holy Communion with Sermon.
4.15 p.m., Holy Baptism.
7 p.m., Choral Evensong and Sermon.

INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, TOWN HALL, NORTHCOTE.

REV. HECTOR FERGUSON
Minister.
Morning, Mr. CLARENCE TIMMINS. Subject, "Divine Call: Human Response."
Evening, Mr. SINCLAIR. Subject, "Practical Occultism."
Mr. Sinclair's Young Men's Class, 3.

NORTHCOTE BAPTIST CHURCH.

Sunday, 5th December.
OPENING SERVICES (continued).
Preachers:
11 a.m., Rev. H. H. JEFFS.
7 p.m., Rev. F. J. WILKIN, M.A.
Collections for Building Fund.

NORTHCOTE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (JAMES ST.)

Sabbath Services:
Rev. R. W. ROCK, morning and evening.
Evening subject (by request), "Five Milestones on the Road to the Highest."
All are cordially welcome.
Young Men's Bible Class at 3. Leader, Mr. J. L. Clarke, M.A.

NORTHCOTE METHODIST CHURCH

Foreign Mission Sunday.
Morning, Mr. A. C. BOWMAN.
Evening, Rev. R. O. COOK.
All seats free. Strangers welcomed.

NORTHCOTE CHURCH of CHRIST, Rechabite Hall, Westbourne Grove.

Sunday Meetings:
11 a.m., Lord's Supper.
3 p.m., Bible School.
7 p.m., Gospel Service. Preacher—Mr. J. D. LANG. Subject:—"Christ the Healer."
All Seats Free. No Collection. All welcome.

PRINCE OF WALES' PARK METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday Services:
Morning, Mr. W. L. M'KELVIE.
Evening, Rev. J. NALL.
All Seats Free. Strangers welcomed.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PRESTON.

Services will be held every Sabbath Evening, at 7 o'clock, in Messrs Nicol and Miller's Rooms, Tram Terminus. Presbyterian families and all attached to no Church welcomed.

SOUTH PRESTON METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday Services:
Rev. L. S. MACDOUGALL, morning and evening.
Bright singing. All welcome.

Dress and Fashion.

MISS GRINDLAY,
DRESSMAKER,
"RAVENNA," DERBY AVENUE,
UPPER NORTHCOTE,
near Kimberley Hall.
Costumes a Specialty.

MISS CROOK desires to intimate that she has started business at
379 HIGH STREET, PRESTON,
as a
DRESSMAKER and UNDERCLOTHIER.
Haberdashery & Fancy Lines stocked.

FOR SMART,
UP-TO-DATE
MILLINERY
at REASONABLE PRICES
call on
MRS. E. A. MILLS,
MILLINER and COSTUMIERE,
249 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
Ladies' Own Material Made Up.
Renovations a Speciality.

AT
MISS BRETT'S,
LADIES' DRAPER,
289 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.

Special Lines in Children's Trimmed Hats at 2/6, 2/9, 3/6, and 4/11.

Lovely line in Flowers at 1/- spray.

Wide Ribbon Velvet, all good shades, 7½d yd.

Chiffon, 18 inches wide, 4½d yd.

Girls' White Lawn Dresses, trimmed with insertion and ribbon, sizes from 30 to 36 inches, very special value, all at 4/11.

Children's open work ¾ Hose, in white and tan, from 6d pair.

Ladies' Tinsel Belts, 10½d.

Xmas! Xmas!

A. LEWIS,
350 QUEEN'S PARADE,
NORTH FITZROY,
Has just opened a Large Assortment of
New Lines
in
FANCY GOODS,
GLASSWARE, VASES,
PERFUMERY,
STATIONERY and TOYS.

Also all the NEWEST DESIGNS in XMAS and NEW YEAR CARDS for the Xmas Trade.

Open Every Night for Stationery and Cards.

INSPECT WINDOW BEFORE PURCHASING ELSEWHERE.

Notices

JUST WHAT'S WANTED.
LARGE BRICK STORE
for
STORING FURNITURE and PIANOS,
any quantity. Apply
H. KNIGHT, Furniture Remover,
258 High St., Northcote.

NUNAN, COLLINS, & CO.,

Furniture, Carpet, and Piano Warehousemen,

212 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.

And 300-2 Bridge Rd., Richmond.

Very Easy Terms as follow:

£3 worth	...	1/- week	£15 worth	...	5/- week
£5 "	...	2/- "	£25 "	...	7/6 "
£7 "	...	2/6 "	£35 "	...	10/- "
£10 "	...	3/6 "	£50 "	...	12/6 "

Special Bargains in Millinery & Corsets
FOR CHRISTMAS.

GREAT REDUCTIONS
in Trimmed Hats.
Holiday Hats, trimmed, from 3/11
Untrimmed Hats, newest shapes, from 1/11.
Children's from 1/-
All leading makes in CORSETS kept in stock from 2/11.
Ribbon Corsets from 1/6.
Short makes from 1/11.

MRS. HOLLAND,
118, 120, 122 Smith Street,
COLLINGWOOD.

W. ANGLISS & CO,

Family Butchers,

HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.

We invite the housekeepers of the district to inspect our Lovely Show of Meat at Great Reductions in prices.

Mutton from 1½d lb.
Roast Beef from 2d 1d.
Corn Beef from 2d lb.
Sausages, 2½d lb.
Mince, 2d lb.

All other Prime Joints Equally Reduced

TRY OUR SMALL GOODS.

THEY ARE THE BEST.

One Visit to our Shop will convince you that ours is the BEST and CHEAPEST MEAT in the district.

Thanking you for past favors and soliciting a further continuance of your esteemed patronage.

W. ANGLISS & CO.,
High St., Northcote.

MRS FALLON
(late of Preston Arms Hotel),
WILL be pleased to see old friends and new at her
REFRESHMENT ROOMS,
210 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.
Tea, Coffee, &c., at all hours.

COOPER'S,
HIGH STREET, PRESTON,
for
ICE CREAM, SUMMER DRINKS, and CONFECTIONERY.

Frost's Livery Stables,
70 MANSFIELD ST., NORTHCOTE.
For Hire—Drags and Waggonettes.
Weddings and Picnics catered for.
TERMS REASONABLE.

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.

T. E. REDMOND'S
1909 PRICE-LIST OF
Harvesting Tools, Twine, Rope, Oil, &c.

Miller's "Anchor" Brand Double-Reeled REAPER & BINDER TWINE
is Best & Goes Farthest.

Pure Manilla Twine, 550ft. to lb.,	7d lb.
Standard Manilla, 500ft. to lb.,	6½ lb.
Special Brand, 475ft. to lb.	6d lb.
Excelsior Twine, 450 feet to the lb.	5½ lb.
3-Ply Russian Hemp, special quality,	11d lb.
Binder Whips,	3/6 and 4/6 each.
Reaper and Machine Files.	

ROPE & HAY LASHING.

Best New Zealand Hayrope,	8½ per lb.
Pure Manilla Rope,	9½ per lb., all sizes

LUBRICATING OILS.

Special Binder Oil in 4 gallon tins,	2/6 gal.
" " 1 gallon tins,	2/11 each
Cape Axle Oil,	2/- per gallon
Pure Indian Castor Oil,	4/6 per gallon
Pure Neatsfoot Oil,	3/11 per gallon
Cream Separator Oil, in 1-gal. tins,	3/6 each
Kerosine, 10/8 per case of 8 gallons.	
Motor Spirits, 12/ per case of 8 gallons.	
Kerosene for Oil Engines. 3/3 per 4 gal. tin.	
Axle Grease, 56 tin: 7lbs, 2/3; 14lbs., 3/6; 28lbs., 5/11.	

HARVEST TOOLS.

SCYTHE BLADES.

Tyzacks—Rivetted back, 36in.,	3/6 each
" Bramble, 28in.,	4/ each
Sickle and Reap Hooks, 1/3, 1/6, & 1/9 each	
Scythe Stones,	5d each
Patent Scythe Handles,	3/6 each
Grass Hooks,	3d each

HAY FORKS, &c.

Hay Forks,	1/11, 2/3, and 2/6
Fork Handles,	9d, 10d, and 1/-
Hay Rakes,	1/3 each

DAIRY REQUISITES.

Milk Dishes, best, stamped, 1/6 & 1/9 each
Milk Buckets, 1/, 1/3, 1/6, 2/, 2/6, and 3/6
Milk Buckets, with strainers, 2/- & 3/6 each
My Railway Milk Cans, strong and good — 30 quart, 12/; 40 quart, 13/; 50 quart, 15/ each. Named, numbered and addressed free.

T. E. REDMOND,
Ironmonger, Crockery, Oil & Color Merchant,
408 HIGH ST., 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.

J. L. CLARKE, LL.B.,
BARRISTER and
SOLICITOR,
Atlas Buildings, 406 Collins Street, Melbourne.
Private address: 77 Roberts St Northcote.

JOHN PHILLIPS, M.R.V.S.,
VETERINARY SURGEON
and
EQUINE DENTIST,
92 EASEY ST., COLLINGWOOD.
Open to call at any hour of night or day.
Horse and Cattle Medicines supplied
Phone 1204 City.

Local Government.

TOWN OF NORTHCOTE.
NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MAKE A GENERAL RATE.

Notice is hereby given that it is the intention of the Council of the Town of Northcote, at a Special Meeting thereof to be held in the Municipal Offices, High Street, Northcote, on the 13th day of December, 1909, at 7.30 p.m., to make a General Rate of Two Shillings and Threepence in the Pound on all rateable property assessable in the said Town, for the period commencing on the 1st day of October, 1909, and ending on the 30th day of September, 1910.

The Estimate of Receipts and Expenditure prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 1903 is deposited at the said offices for inspection by the ratepayers during office hours.

By order,
W. G. SWIFT,
Town Clerk.
3rd December, 1909.

SHIRE OF EPPING.

Notice is hereby given that a Meeting for examining the Audited Statement of the Shire of Epping for the year ended 30th September, 1909, will be held at the Shire Hall, Epping, on Monday, 20th December, 1909, at 12 noon.

The said Statement is printed and can be inspected at the Shire Hall, Epping.

By order,
JAMES RYAN,

Business Notices

FOR
Electroplate Ware
of all descriptions.
WM. WALKER,
WATCHMAKER & JEWELLER,
92 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.

Established 20 years.
W. FIRTH
GENERAL DRAPER,
344 SMITH STREET,
COLLINGWOOD
(Below Johnston St).

House & Land Wanted.

WANTED, all districts, any quantity houses, allotments, farms, country homes. Buyers, tenants waiting. Gordon Garrett 595 High St., Northcote.

Death.

O'CONNOR.—On 3rd December, at her late residence, Arundell, Mary, the dearly beloved wife of Jack O'Connor, late of Collingwood.
Rest in Peace.

The Leader
JUSTICE TO ALL.
Published Every Saturday Morning
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4.

Mr. G. C. Clausen was a visitor at the last meeting of the Northcote Town Council, and being an ex councillor was at once called up to a seat of honor next the mayor. Mr. Clausen was elected one of the representatives of the central ward on the sub-division of the town in 1890, but as an advocate of a progressive loan policy went up to the west ward the following year and was defeated. In the mayor's room the visitor had the toast of his health proposed. Speaking to the toast, old councillors and old residents like Crs. McIntosh, Smith, and Mitchell eulogised Mr. Clausen's hospitality and good citizen-ship in the past, specially referring to the leading part he had taken in establishing the trams, which had been such a great factor in the making of Northcote. The guest, in responding, remarked that of the council as he first knew it only two remained, namely, Crs McIntosh and Smith. As for the trams they had cost him £9000, and the people were reaping the benefit of that now, even if he wasn't. He advised the council not to be timid. With so much work to be done there was bound to be a strain on the finances, but it must all come right in the end.

The Infectious Diseases Hospital authorities have approved of the admission of Preston to the management of the hospital, on condition that they pay their due proportion of the capital cost and accounts to date. South Melbourne City Council have also been forced in, and even the Epping Shire Council has been so staggered with the accounts which have come in to it that it is now considering whether it would not be more economical to join in the management.

Mrs Wilkinson, snr., mother of Cr. A. S. and Mr. A. Wilkinson, Preston, returned on Monday from a ten-months' trip to England and the continent. The fact of Mrs Wilkinson's years verging on three score and ten did not prevent her enjoying the trip to the full and she returns in excellent health. Her daughter, Dr. Isabel Wilkinson, left her at Colombo to re embark for Hankow, China, where she takes charge of the hospital.

Hattam & Hattam's December bargain sale starts to day. Don't miss it. [Advt.]

THE MERRI CREEK.

NORTHCOTE COUNCIL CALL A CONFERENCE.

The Northcote town council wrote to the Preston council on Monday evening convening a conference of the councils of the Cities of Collingwood, Fitzroy, and Brunswick, Town of Northcote, Borough of Coburg, and Shires of Heidelberg and Preston on Friday, 3rd December, for the purpose of devising some scheme of uniform action for the improvement of the Merri Creek. The Parliamentary representatives had been requested to attend. Two representatives were requested to attend.

The president and Cr. Warr were appointed to attend.

LETTER FROM NORTHCOTE COUNCIL

The Northcote town council wrote (through the town clerk, W. G. Swift) the following letter to the Preston council:—Owing to frequent complaints received from residents of the town who live in the vicinity of the Merri Creek of the very offensive smell which arises from the creek the council directed its sanitary inspector to make an inspection of the creek, and report fully as to the cause of its condition. A copy of the report is forwarded for your earnest consideration, as from it you will observe that he assigns the whole cause of the offensiveness of the creek to the drainage which comes from your shire. This matter has been so frequently before both councils that it is felt here that drastic action would be justified, but as there is full power vested in your council to deal with the noxious trades in your territory to compel them to effectually purify and deodorise all drainage before allowing it to leave their premises I have been instructed to submit the whole question to you to deal with and prevent this continual source of trouble between the councils. I am aware that there will be sewerage as soon as possible, but in the meantime some action must be taken to stop the discharge of the offensive matter so that the creek may be gradually brought into a sanitary state.

The inspector's report having been read,

Cr. Warr moved that the matter be referred to the committee of the whole. In doing so he disagreed with the Northcote inspector that the Preston drainage was solely responsible for the pollution of the creek. The inspector must know that noxious drainage goes into Bullen's drain from Northcote. He was prepared to take their share of the responsibility for the state of the creek, but not the whole of it.

Cr. Wilkinson seconded the motion.

Cr. Robertson, in supporting the resolution, said that some time ago he personally inspected the Merri Creek and found that besides that coming from Preston drainage was going in to the creek from Brunswick, Northcote, Fitzroy, and Collingwood that was extremely filthy. As they knew there was nothing worse than household drainage for causing a nuisance. There was also the weir above St. George's road bridge, which caused the water to stagnate. Some of the drainage which went from Preston establishments, while it might look very bad, yet contained properties that would do more to purify than contaminate.

The president (Cr. Howe) said they must let it be seen and known that they were determined to do their utmost to render their drainage as pure and unoffensive as possible. All the noxious trades were using the best of disinfectants till such time as they got the sewerage; and they must still further impress upon them the necessity of renewed efforts.

The motion was carried.

Metal from Jessie and other Streets.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—The ratepayers of the south ward must have viewed with alarm and been very much shocked when they read in the last issue of the *Leader* that Cr. Dennis, in answer to enquiries from Cr. Plant, admitted that Dennis Bros. had appropriated to their own use the stone that was taken out of Jessie and other streets.

We all remember the remarks made by Cr. Dennis at all his meetings when seeking election for the south ward that the councillors should see that the stone was crushed and put on the much neglected streets. The stone crusher was in the ward and it was his opportunity to inform the officers not to miss the chance of having every bit of available stone crushed and put on the streets. After the remarks that he persistently made he should at least not have forgotten his promise to the ratepayers.

Are the councillors going to allow the matter to end, or are they going to get a full report and, if necessary, pass a vote of censure on Cr. Dennis? Or are the two south ward ratepayers' associations, who watch the actions of the sitting councillors, going to take action in the matter? I hope they will, and get Cr. Dennis to read letters from them at the council table. If not, I hope there will be sufficient interest taken by the ratepayers of the south ward to call an indignation meeting and pass a vote of censure on Cr. Dennis on his own statement. The few words of Cr. Smith were truly spoken—"We lose it every time." Hundreds and hundreds of loads of stone have been carted out of the ward since the sewerage was commenced, and if this is allowed to continue what the ratepayers hoped for will never be accomplished, that is making the streets out of the sewer metal.—Yours &c.,

INDIGNANT RATEPAYER.

Death.

O'CONNOR.—On 3rd December, at her late residence, Arundell, Mary, the dearly beloved wife of Jack O'Connor, late of Collingwood.
Rest in Peace.

The Leader
JUSTICE TO ALL.
Published Every Saturday Morning
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4.

Localisms.

Northcote Town Council give notice of their intention to strike a rate of 2/3 in the pound.

Mr. Mumbrey, M.L.A., has arranged for a deputation from the Northcote council and the Board of Advice to the Minister of Education on Monday at 12 re the Prince of Wales' Park State School.

Northcote Cricket Club are having a reunion of members at the town-hall on Thursday evening next.

A garden fete, in aid of the funds of Holy Trinity, Thornbury, is to be held at "Latona," Shaftesbury parade, on Saturday next. There are to be fine musical programmes and the customary other attractions.

"Fairyland," in aid of All Saints', Preston, was patronised by a crowded house on Saturday evening last. The effort resulted in over £60 being raised, which it is hoped will be made up by other means to the £70 required to pay the church's proportion of the cost of constructing Murray road.

We direct attention to Hattam & Hattam's special drapery circular issued with to day's *Leader*.

Northcote South Ratepayers' Association held their monthly meeting on Tuesday night. Mr. G. Elliott will lecture on "Greater Melbourne."

"Entirely new subjects to night" reads the advertisement for this evening's all picture show at the Northcote park.

A garden fete in connection with Preston Presbyterian Church will be opened this afternoon at 3 by Cr. Howe, J.P., president of the shire, at "Eastwood," near Murray station. The fete will be continued in the evening.

Railway Department has once more declined to accede to Preston Council's request to alter the time of the 7.45 p.m. train from the city to 7.30.

Mrs. Holland, 118, 120, and 122 Smith st., Collingwood, advertises special bargains in millinery and corsets for Christmas, also holiday hats from 3/11.

Government auditor W. P. Steane has completed his examination of Preston Shire books and certified to their correctness. "I may state that I was very pleased with the excellent way in which your records are kept" was a paragraph in his report.

Of the estimated cost of constructing the new batch of Preston sts, etc.—£3014 0s 5d—£664 18s 9d has been paid in cash, leaving balance to borrow of £2349 1s 8d.

Clausen and Co., complete house furnishers, 194-6 Bourke street city, advertise "a trio of specials" on our first page to day.

A Christmas fair and sale of gifts, in aid of South Preston Methodist Church repairs fund, will be held in the Bradford hall on December 15 and 16.

At the Northcote town-hall on Tuesday, Dec. 14, a grand concert is to be given in aid of Holy Trinity Tennis Club, Thornbury.

Constable Frawley has been appointed a plain clothes constable for duty in the Northcote district. This is a promotion, carrying extra pay, of which no one is more deserving than Constable Frawley, who has always been assiduous in the detection of crime and shown the possession of courage when occasion arose.

Below Geo. Wardrop, tailor and men's mercer, Smith street, has something to say about "your holiday hat."

At the Clifton Hill competitions this week Louie Hellwig, Northcote, got 1st prize for pianoforte solo under 10; Daphne Gordon, 1st prize for under 12; Connie Williams highly commended under 12, and Stella Millett 1st under 16. All were pupils of Mrs. L. Baker. Ada Stadd, pupil of Miss Hilda Baker, was awarded 1st under 14 for singing.

Wm. Walker, watchmaker and jeweller, 92 High street, advertises to-day his specialities suitable for Christmas and New Year presents.

The Rev. H. S. Woollcombe, who is touring the British possessions in the interest of the Church of England Men's Society, will visit Melbourne during December, and hold men's meetings in different parts of the metropolis. He is planned to speak at All Saints', Northcote, All Saints', Preston, and at Thornbury.

Best & Co., drapers, Thornbury, advertise to-day several specialities for the holiday season.

The monthly meeting of the Northcote Horticultural Society will be held in the town-hall on Tuesday evening. Mr. W. H. Bayston, of Oakleigh, has consented to attend and deliver a lecturette on the culture of the Dahlia. Although only a very young man, Mr. Bayston is the leading amateur exhibitor in the State. As this is the month in which to plant the tubers for Autumn blooming, growers should not miss the opportunity of hearing this lecture.

Church News.

LEE: Wednesday night in the Methodist hall Mr. A. E. Corney opened the "barrow" fair arranged by the Methodist Girls' Friendly Society, assisted by the Brotherhood and Young Men's Bible Class. Folk were a trifle curious to know what a "barrow" fair implied, but on entering the hall their understandings readily realised its meaning. Located in different parts of the hall were half a dozen barrows after the pattern of those generally used by ice cream and city fruit vendors. These were transformed and made to look quite smart and novel with art muslin drapings. The merchandise was displayed on the barrows, around which the people assembled and unloosed their purse strings. The fair was in aid of the Sunday School fund, and as a result it will benefit to the extent of at least £25. Praise is due to the president (Mrs Cox) and to the secretary (Miss Pearl) for their unremitting labors. Mr. and Mrs Corney were warmly welcomed by old friends, whom they expressed pleasure in again meeting. The minister (Rev. T. Alday) was present and always ready to lend a helping hand. Mr. W. Cox proved of great service to the "girls," and they appreciate his kindness. The following are the stall holders —Fancy—Mesdames Dawson and Groube, Misses E. Pearl, J. Willmott, Aldridge, & H. Watson; refreshments—Mrs Schieferdecker, Misses Dennis, Hooper, Powell, Bennetts, C. Pinchbeck, F. Hanna; ice cream—Misses A. Willmott, Alday, Schieferdecker, J. Rowe; bran dip—Misses Sadie Willmott and Maud George; sweets—Mrs Johnson, Misses Young, A. and M. Polkinghorne, J. Pearl, Pinchbeck; R. Horsley; cake—Mrs Russell, Misses Cartmell and Rowe; flower (arranged by Young Men's class)—Messrs C. Horsley, W. Russell, G. Irwin, T. Tomkins, G. Youren; shooting gallery—Messrs B. Cox and L. Youren; produce (arranged by Brotherhood) Messrs Johnson, Dawson, Youren, Hunter and Schieferdecker.

The Preston Orchestra favored with several selections, and Miss J Rowe recited.

The Junior Christian Endeavor Society of the South Preston Methodist Church held their first picnic at Mrs. W. J. Gray's, "Ellangowan," Hutton street, Northcote, on Saturday afternoon last. About eighty children took part in the various games played. The Rev. L. S. Macdougall, president of the society, and several of the church members helped to amuse the little folk. The success of the picnic was largely due to the efforts of the superintendents, Mr. W. J. Gray and Miss Thorpe.

Your Holiday Hat

Why not a soft Lounge Felt? The comfort, the coolness, and the dressy effect they impart make them the ideal hats for summer wear.

Get one for the holidays—it will do you for Christmas, and afterwards. We have them in Greens, Drabs, Grays, and Browns. Look in and try one on.

Wardrop's Corner,
SMITH STREET, COLLINGWOOD.

Meetings.

NORTHCOTE South Ratepayers' Association.—Monthly meeting, Tuesday next, 8 p.m., All Saints' Hall. Lecture, "Greater Melbourne," by Mr. G. Elliott. Ratepayers always welcome.

COUNCILLORS AT BOWLS.

NORTHCOTE V. PRESTON.

Having such pleasant memories of the game of bowls to which President Howe, of Preston shire, recently invited Northcote councillors and officers, the Mayor of Northcote (Cr. Hayes) took an early opportunity of arranging for a return match. This event mated on Wednesday last at the Northcote green, which the local club kindly placed at the disposal of the mayor for the occasion. After a night's soaking rain it seemed in the morning rather improbable that play would be possible on the green, but it dried up wonderfully, and though "heavy," through being moist and unrolled, it played truely. Three council rinks were played and also an extra rink made up of four well known Preston tanners and a mixed four from Northcote. It was a well contested and enjoyable game. Preston strove hard to recover "the ashes" and looked like succeeding in the earlier stages. They were "up" 10—41 to 31—at the 10th end and 4 "up" at the 15th end, but from this on the home team prevailed eventually finishing up winners by 6 points, 61 to 55. Cr. Plant's rink 7 "up" was responsible for the victory, Cr. Wilkinson making a tie with Mayor Hayes and Cr. Crispe gaining an advantage over Cr. Mitchell by 1. On the whole totals Preston was 2 down. Had they only managed to get a "leg in" the excitement over "the rubber" would have surely been tremendous. A few drops of rain fell at one stage of the afternoon causing the ladies—who had mustered in good force—to hurry away to the pavilion. Excepting this the weather conditions were all that could be desired. The following are the scores:—

	N.	P.
Lees, Bainbridge, Robb, Mitchell	17	21
Witherington, Robertson, Stanlake, Crispe	—	18
McIntosh, Westhouse, Hastings, Plant	23	—
Hamilton, Warr, Paterson, Howe	—	16
Archbold, Dennis, Harry, Hayes	21	—
Howse, Chappell (sub.), Whalley, Wilkinson	—	21
Swift, Bailey, Inman, Lawrence	17	21
Zwar, Broadhurst, Walker, Braithwaite	—	21
	78	78

At the conclusion of the game the whole company adjourned by invitation of the mayor and mayoress to the town hall, where a substantial and appetising tea awaited them. In "discussing" the good things and in the exchange of courtesies and pleasantries a pleasant hour was spent.

Several toasts were honoured.

The chairman (Cr. Hayes), in proposing "The Preston Council," coupled with the name of the president, said both councils were under a deep debt of gratitude to Cr. Tharratt for inaugurating these friendly visits which did so much, not only to establish friendly relations between the two councils but also to promote the friendship of individuals. Touching on the game that day Cr. Hayes said honours were fairly even but the margin was in favour of Northcote, so he was glad to say they still retained the ashes. (Laughter). Whatever the result he was sure the game had been most enjoyable to all. (Applause).

Cr. Howe, the president of Prestonshire, was given such a cordial reception that he said he thought his hat would never fit him again. He quite agreed with the mayor as to the good results of these foregatherings and was glad a tribute had been paid to Cr. Tharratt for initiating them. As councils of course they had differences, but he would not go into that. (Laughter). He would only say they were determined to make their municipality all that it should be, and in the meantime he would say "Don't be too hard on poor little Preston." (Laughter and applause). On behalf of the visitors he would like to thank the mayor and mayoress for the generous hospitality extended to them.

Other toasts honoured were "The Metropolitan Board," proposed by Cr. Bastings and responded to by Crs. Mitchell and Crispe. The latter gave the information that the contract for the main sewer to Preston would be let in two months Cr. Plant gave the presidents of the two bowling clubs," who, he said, were just the men for such positions. Colonel Braithwaite (Preston), and Mr. R. B. Lawrence (Northcote), responded. "The officers" was given by Cr. Williams supported by Cr Archbold, and Messrs T. J. Witherington and W. G Swift responded. Cr. Howe proposed "The Mayor and Mayoress," which was drunk with musical honours, Cr. Hayes responding.

The tables having been cleared away the remainder of the evening was pleasantly spent with music and dancing. Songs were contributed by Messrs Hamilton, V. Swift, Schwaebsch and Miss Olive Swift and Mr. W. P. Roberts gave some of his well-known humorous pieces. The enjoyable re-union terminated about 11.30 with "Auld Lang Syne."

PRESTON PRIVATE STREETS CONSTRUCTION.

RATEPAYERS OBJECT TO PAY ON ESTIMATED COST.

MR. I. BARROW PUTS HIS CASE.

PRESIDENT HOWE SAYS RATEPAYERS MAY RELY ON BEING CHARGED NOT ONE PENNY MORE THAN ACTUAL COST.

Mr. I. Barrow, who is probably the largest contributor to the cost of the last batch of private streets at Preston, his accounts aggregating over £500, on Monday put his case to the council in the following letter:—

"I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter informing me that your council had decided that they had no power to accept my terms of *actual cash* payments for the contemplated works, and that unless I desired to pay the *estimated cost* it would be necessary for me to take the extended terms.

In reply I would submit that the council having admitted there was a limit to their powers, must also admit that they are powerless to compel a citizen to pay a debt that does not exist, or to take credit against his will when he wants to pay cash; and further, a debt is not due until it is contracted, and can only be incurred by some commodity being supplied, or some work or labour being done. The council have done neither for me *therefore I am not indebted to them.*

I sincerely regret having to take up this attitude, and only do it on the principle of equity and justice. I am not antagonistic to the proposed works being done; in fact have always expressed approval during *the many years it has taken to consider*, and am quite prepared to pay my proportion immediately it is due; but from my point of view it would be unbusinesslike—(1) To pay on an estimate; (2) to pay before I owe; (3) To allow my money to lie for an *indefinite period* with out being used; (4) To burden myself or my executors for a period of 12 years when I am able to meet my engagements promptly.

In conclusion I would ask the council to re consider the matter in the light of the foregoing arguments, when I trust they will see the reasonableness of and accede to my request."

Cr. Stanlake said he did not see how they could take any further action. They had answered Mr. Barrow's letter in accordance with the Local Government Act, and he was rather surprised at Mr. Barrow writing in this strain seeing he had been a councillor and must know that they only followed the procedure laid down by the Local Government Act. He would move that the letter be simply received.

Cr. Wilkinson said he would like to move that the matter be referred to the committee of the whole. There might be a way out of it. It might be some time before the works are put in hand, and Mr. Barrow will be losing the interest on his £600.

A councillor asked when the amount was due.

The president—It is overdue.

Cr. Paterson—We can't take any action then. He would second Cr. Stanlake's motion that the letter be received.

OTHER LETTERS.

D. Ross, A. E. Jones, O. V. Westcott, Chas. Westcott, E. P. Toll, and T. E. Redmond all wrote to the effect that they were willing to pay their proportions as soon as tenders were called and they knew the actual cost of the streets.

These letters were also simply received, the replies sent by the secretary being endorsed.

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT.

In connection with a toast submitted subsequently to the president's room the matter again cropped up, and the president (Cr. Howe) declared that the ratepayers could take his word for it that the ratepayers would not be charged one penny more than the cost of the work. Refunds would be made to the contributors should any contract be let below the estimate.

Wanted to Buy

WANTED to Buy 5 or 6 acres of Green Standing Crop. C. E. Coles, Regian street, South Preston (creek end).

OPENING OF NEW BAPTIST Church.

SUCCESSFUL CELEBRATIONS.

The Northcote Baptists have just taken the wise and progressive step of erecting a new church for themselves. It has been built on a good central site in High street, close to Darebin Road, is of brick, with a solid and very presentable exterior, and a bright and most pleasing interior. There is seating accommodation for 350, while, on a pinch, fifty or so more could be got in. All Board of Health requirements as to ventilation and means of ingress and egress have been fully complied with, and it would seem impossible that the congregations would ever have need to complain of a close atmosphere. The builders have been Messrs J. Bennell and Son, a local firm, upon whom the workmanship both without and within reflects every credit. The mention of the name of the builders during the opening celebrations always evoked cheers, which is proof that the edifice and the manner of its erection has given general satisfaction.

OPENING SERVICES.

The opening services were held on Sunday last, when perfect weather favoured. To the Rev. F. C. Spurr, of the Collins Street Baptist Church, was given the honour of preaching the first sermon in the new church, and he proved in every way worthy of it, quite enthralling the crowded congregation with his eloquent discourse, and sending them home delighted and uplifted. The Mayor and Mayoress (Cr. and Mrs. W. Hayes) and several of the town councillors and their wives were present by invitation, and occupied seats reserved for them. The service was begun by the singing of "In Verdure Clad" by Mrs Hoskins. The choir rendered very nicely several anthems, Mr. Read presiding at the organ.

REV. F. C. SPURR'S SERMON.

IMPRESSION BY A VISITOR.

"But what went ye out to see?" read the preacher. A pertinent question. I had heard of the fame of this disciple of Christ. Now I have both seen and heard him. I walked to my home hardly wishing to speak. I almost longed for the power of this man. And God only gives it to the few—the very few. Surely, thought I, had we but men to preach as this man, who almost spoke as one "having authority," surely Christ's work would be done on earth as it is done in heaven. It was good to have our hopes strengthened and our grip made firmer in these days of indifference and hostility to the Gospel of Christ.

I heard the notes of a good singer —! Who is this? A man, clothed as ministers are? No. There is no distinctive mark: just as decent well-to-do men are clothed. One line of the beautiful Psalm is enough. My soul responded to the touch of a master. What a power there is in the human voice! I was fascinated by the tones—deep, soft, tender, vigorous, denunciatory, appealing. But there was something behind the voice — power, strength, faith, sympathy. I must repeat again, Faith unbounded Faith! 'Twas the clear ringing note always sounding and vibrating in the grand sermon preached. God has, indeed, endowed this man with rich blessings, physically and mentally. A strong man—one who can infuse his strength into others—a leader of men a disciple of Jesus Christ.

We had heard the old text before: "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ." I know not who preached it in days gone by. Now, my soul within me thrills and leaps forth in the cry—I, too, am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ. I cannot help saying—"Thank God this man is using his wondrous gifts in the cause of Good." In one short half-hour he galvanised into holy life those who came to hear him.

Was it his voice only? Who shall forget the strength of the face at one time expressing indignation—now lit up with a smile, which seemed to show forth the tenderness of the man—now he carries one away with his appeal—his eyes pierced the very heavens at times. I know not why, but I followed and looked deep into them. These are the windows of the soul of man, burning with zeal, and Faith and Hope.

There is power to move and sway an audience in the human voice, and there is power in speech, too. Those swift, light touches illuminating a dark thought and dispelling a doubt, "The Good Old Times," causing a ripple of merriment, yet instantly subdued "Thy will be done *on Earth*" "Heaven and Hell not preached but *Life*." How the "Good Spell" was clearly defined by proving the Evil Spell. And lastly (few will forget that "lastly") the testimony of the learned amongst learned and the lowliest among the lowly. It was a sermon we wanted. It is a sermon wanted every Sunday in the year The preacher knew our wants, a great qualification in a minister.

As the congregation slowly filed out I heard on all sides expressions of pleasure; all bore the look of having heard something special. There were jarring notes, too, "A tip-top sermon!" A fine oratorical display. No! emphatically No; T'would be but poor praise to convey appreciation in such terms. No! I felt as though I would like to clasp hands with the preacher, look deep into those eyes, and say with all fervour—Thou hast set my foot firmer on the Rock. I, too, am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ.

Splendid congregations also came along in the afternoon and evening, when the preachers were the Rev. F. E. Harry and Rev. J. H. Goble, respectively. At the evening service Mr. George Connors sang "Within this Holy Temple."

FURTHER CELEBRATIONS.

The auspicious event was further celebrated with a tea and public meeting on Wednesday. The tea, which was held in the Kimberley hall (which the congregation are glad to say goodbye to) passed off in the happiest manner. There was a large attendance and the following ladies presided at the tables, namely, Mesdames Smith, McDougall,

THE MAN FROM CANADA.

"Twenty years is a long time. The man may be dead!"

"And again—he may not. Of course, there have hitherto been no answers to our advertisements, but, all the same, one may hear of or from him at any moment."

"And in the meantime?"

The lawyer looked across the polished mahogany table at his client with thoughtful scrutiny. Outside in the magnificent park a light summer shower was falling, and big pink roses beat their wet heads against the half-open windows. A faint scent of sweet peas filled the beautiful old room.

"In the meantime—you are in possession," he said at length; "you act as proxy, more or less, until Mr. Fearon turns up."

"And if he does not?" There was barely-disguised anxiety in the pleasant voice.

"If he does not—within the space of a year—the entire estates fall by natural sequence to—you."

Robert Leslie laughed, and, pushing back his chair, he got up and walked to the windows, looking out on the far-stretching park with its splendid timber, its exquisite lights and shades, melting away to a distant line of blue hills. The lawyer watched him for a minute, then began to gather up the papers which strewed the table before him.

"If he does not turn up in the space of one year," said Leslie, turning round at last, "I can't be such a hypocrite Burland to pretend I hope he will ever do so. My whole life and soul are bound up in this place; I've helped to make it what it is. I—I love every stick and stone of it. But—no stone must be left unturned to find Fearon—if he's alive. You'll see to that, Burland?"

"I will, Mr. Leslie. It's a strange business all through. Any further instructions you'll send to the office? Then I had better be going. I think we have done and said all that is necessary to-day."

"I think so. But you'll dine with me first, Burland?"

"I'm sorry, I can't. I have an important appointment at six o'clock, and I see it is after half-past five now. Good day, Mr. Leslie—good day."

When the lawyer had gone, driving down the steep avenue behind his fast-trotting bay, Robert Leslie stepped out of the library window on to the long terrace which ran the whole length of the Manor House and looked over the radiant flower gardens, glowing in all their summer beauty of roses and carnations. Great hedges of sweet-peas fringed the gravelled paths and shed their sweetness on the warm air. Beyond the garden lay the park, dotted with fine old timber. One could see the gleam of water through the trees, and beyond the belt of dark firs climbing the hill on the other side there cut a line of amethyst sea. Small wonder that Robert Leslie looked with eyes half proud, half tender, on such a goodly heritage. Small wonder that, not being a hypocrite, he should feel no great anxiety to see the return of the ne'er-do-weel heir, whose coming would dispossess him of his present sovereignty.

He had lived so long at the Manor House that he could recall no other home. The nephew of the late owner, the lad had been brought up as the heir, despite the fact that old Roger Fearon's only son still lived—presumably. He had shaken off the iron discipline of his home—had cut himself adrift from his old life, and gone out to the Colonies in a fit of temper. Since then no one had heard anything of him—beyond a rumor which came now and then—sometimes a rumor of death. And when Roger Fearon was gathered to his fathers, Robert Leslie, his nephew and next-of-kin, stepped into his shoes. And would fill them very suitably, said the neighborhood. For Robert Leslie was a popular man, respected and looked up to by the tenants on the estate, and cordially liked by his own class, who would have been sincerely sorry to see him disposed of his goodly inheritance by a man of whom report had nothing to say but evil.

Should Godfrey Fearon turn up, then Robert Leslie would go forth practically a penniless man save for his profession—he had read for the Bar, but never practised, owing to the fact that his uncle had kept him with him, administering the estate and acting as his agent—and it would be uphill work for him to carve his way to fortune, or even a moderate competence. He would not care for himself, but there was Mary to consider. His eyes grew tender as his thoughts lingered about the woman he hoped to call wife. He could not make her his own yet—he felt it was not fair. Supposing the heir arrived—what of Mary? He could not run the risk of seeing her cast out on the world with him. He must wait for the year, and then—surely they would know by that time whether Godfrey Fearon was in the land of the living or not. In the meantime, Mary Boden was out in Canada, staying with an uncle and aunt who were overpowered by a young and growing family, and who found their tall young niece, with her bright disposition and clever fingers, a perfect godsend to the rather neglected household. Robert hated to think that the sea rolled between him and Mary; he longed to cable out to her to come home and marry him at once. But he must wait. That was the most difficult thing in the world to do.

He pictured her mistress of the Manor House and all the loveliness which lay outspread before him, and his heart glowed at the thought. What a home she would make for him! Such a home as he had never yet known—but had only dreamed of.

She had known hard times, and he longed to bring her to this goodly heritage—to know that trouble and hardship were put away in the past, and that the path shone before her couleur de rose. But he must possess his soul in patience, and—wait.

Months passed—and no answer came to the many advertisements inserted by Mr. Burland for the missing heir to the Manor estate. Only there came a letter from Mary Boden which brought a wave of joy to Robert Leslie in his loneliness. Mary was coming home—in a couple of weeks she would be in her home, the snug little house under the lee of the hill. She would be within a mile of the Manor House—and Robert.

. . . . . .

"But for you, Miss Boden, I should have died."

Mary Boden looked up from her work with a little start. Her thoughts—pleasant ones, judging by the smile that lingered in her pretty hazel eyes—had been far away from the quiet house in the New England village, and the voice of the man who was standing looking out of the window at the waving trees brought her back from a land of dreams with a wrench. A fine-looking man he was, too—something over forty, with keen blue eyes and an upright bearing. His face bore many marks of hardship and privation, though his clothing was good and his air prosperous.

But Godfrey Bradshaw had known hard times before he struck oil, as he put it, and emerged after many years of struggle and despair, one of the richest settlers in the colony. He had been brought to the house where Mary Boden was staying with her uncle and aunt, unconscious and badly injured, having been thrown from his horse, and Mary had practically nursed him back to life and health again, so that his words were not exaggerated after all, and a sincere gratitude vibrated in his voice; something deeper and more tender shone in his keen blue eyes as they rested on the girl's sweet face.

"Don't say that," she said, gently; "I only did what I could. I am delighted to think you are quite well and strong again. But you must remember what a good patient you were—that helped more than anything!"

"A good patient!" Bradshaw pulled himself up sharply. Who would not be a good patient when Mary was the nurse? But the time had not yet come when he could speak to her of all that was growing day by day in his heart. He had led a wild, adventurous sort of life ever since his coming to the colony many years ago. He had been obliged to put his hand to any work that turned up at first; then his perseverance and enterprise met with its due reward, and things began to prosper with him. Finally—he had made his pile—he could, if he wished, go back to the old country, revisit old landmarks, pick up many broken threads. Sometimes he wished to do so; at others he reflected that little good might come of it. He was contented enough. He was rich; he would make his home in the colony which had given him fortune, and where now he had met the one woman who could ever touch his heart.

He turned and glanced at her sitting quietly bending over her work, the sunshine from the open window falling on her pretty ear; there was something very calm and restful about Mary Boden's appearance, but to-day a subtle sort of excitement had colored her cheeks and given them a rosy glow. Presently she looked up and laid down her work for a minute.

"I must tell you some news, Mr. Bradshaw. I am going home."

Bradshaw wheeled round—paused a moment, then crossed the room and dropped into a chair near the girl.

"Going home?" he echoed. "You mean to England?"

Mary nodded.

"Yes; I have only been staying here, you know, with my uncle; now I am going back to Hawkleigh."

The man's voice was startled; some thing leaped into his keen blue eyes.

"Yes; do you know that place at all?"

"By name; I don't know where I heard the name. So you live there do you?"

The blow fell—Bradshaw felt himself wince before it. He had never suspected, never guessed, that someone had come into Mary's life before him, had taken the blessing of which he had been dreaming all these blissful days. His lips whitened a little; but Mary had bent to her work again, her thoughts winging away to Robert and the rosy future before them, and so she did not see the man's change of countenance. Only his momentary silence puzzled her a little.

"So you are going to be married?" he said at last. "I wish you every happiness, Miss Mary. Is the wedding to be soon?"

Mary colored rosily. Her eyes were very bright and happy.

"At the end of the year—perhaps sooner; so I shall be very busy when I get home. You ought to take a trip to England, Mr. Bradshaw—revisit old haunts. I suppose you have many friends you could look up in the old country?"

"No, I don't think I have; and revisiting old scenes is melancholy work, Miss Boden, when one has to do it alone, and after such a gap of years I should find everything so changed. It's sad work, going back—though I often think I ought to run across the herring pond, just out of curiosity, although I am sure no one would remember me; and I have no one belonging to me—now."

His tone was bitter, his eyes rather sombre. Not long ago he had by chance seen the notice of his father's death in an English paper which had come under his notice. What memories of the past that had opened up—what vain and useless regrets! He had felt he ought to go over then, but something held him back, and then his accident kept him a prisoner to his bed for many weeks. That fact—and Mary—made him loath to travel so far. After all, he could do no good; the past was done with. No doubt his father had kept his word and disinherited him. And the new country of his adoption held all his interests for the present, and that future which he had hoped to share with Mary Boden. Well, that dream was over. He would have to accustom himself to a life of loneliness, even in the midst of his prosperity, for he could not be contented with the second best—it was the one woman for him or no one.

A fortnight later Mary Boden was preparing for departure; her passage was taken, and Bradshaw realised that the time was drawing near when she would go out of his life for ever, yet he could not keep away from her. Waiting for her one day in the pretty sunlit room, an open paper—an English one—lying on the table arrested his attention. He bent and glanced at the first columns, and one paragraph rose, as it were, and hit him in the eyes.

He read it with a dazed sort of face:—

FEARON.—If Godfrey Fearon, who left Hawkleigh twenty years ago, will communicate with Messrs. Burland and Martin, solicitors, Hawkleigh, he will hear of something to his advantage. A reward will be given for any information leading to the discovery of the said Godfrey Fearon's whereabouts.

Bradshaw drew a long breath. At that moment the door opened and Mary came in, and he straightened himself quickly. On the impulse of the moment he said, suddenly:

"Do you know, I'm going to England too, Miss Boden. We may be fellow-passengers after all. I have to go over—on business."

A week later the homeward-bound mailboat numbered amongst her passengers both Mary Boden and Godfrey Bradshaw.

. . . . . .

The voyage was calm and uneventful, save for Godfrey Bradshaw, for whom fate had reserved yet another blow. Mary he knew was beyond his reach. He could never hope to win her now; but another incentive had come into his life. There might be a new life for him in the old country; since his father's solicitors were advertising for him, he supposed he had not been cut off with the proverbial shilling after all! Well—he would be glad to see the old home again—glad it would not pass into the hands of strangers, or even of that cousin of his, whom he had never seen, but who he heard had taken his place at home, and acted the part of a son to the late owner of Hawkleigh Manor.

Mary's mention of the place recalled his boyhood's memories, as they sat together on deck one fine evening. In twenty-four hours they would be in Liverpool—their journey would be ended—a journey which, for Mary Boden at any rate, was to have the happiest of endings.

"Will you live at Hawkleigh when you are—married?" he asked, with some difficulty. Mary's face clouded a little.

"I think so—I hope so. But it depends, you see, whether Mr. Leslie remains at the Manor House or not."

Bradshaw started a little. Leslie! Why, his cousin's name was Leslie—and——

"He is thinking—of leaving?" he hazarded.

"He may be obliged to do so. You see, he only succeeds to the Manor House estate under odd circumstances. If the heir—a Mr. Fearon—does not turn up within a year of the old man's death, the nephew—Robert Leslie—succeeds. If Mr. Fearon arrives, Robert has nothing. That will delay our marriage. He is a barrister, but has never practised, as his uncle always wanted him at home. It was hard on him that the property should have been left in such a queer way, but it was a whim of the uncle's, I suppose. You see, his son went away twenty years ago and has never been heard of since. I don't suppose he will turn up."

"I dare say not," said Bradshaw, slowly. His eyes were fixed on the blue waters through which the big vessel was steadily ploughing her way. So Mary was going to marry Robert Leslie, and expected to reign at Hawkleigh as mistress! What an irony of fate! "And when is the year up?"

"Next month. After that, if Mr. Fearon does not appear, Robert is the sole owner of the Manor House. Oh, I hope he won't turn up—I don't mean to be unkind or anything, but it will make all the difference to Robert and to me if he doesn't. And, after twenty years, I suppose things couldn't be the same for him if he did come back."

"No, they couldn't," said Bradshaw slowly; "they could not, of course."

. . . . . .

Long after Mary Boden had gone to her cabin that night—the last night of their voyage—Bradshaw paced up and down the deserted deck in the chill moonlight wrestling with himself. The calm stars looked down upon him as he battled with his miserable jealousy—his vain longings for all that Mary could have brought him—happiness and home, and all a man wants to complete his life's happiness. But they were destined for another, and that other his cousin and the present owner of the Manor House. Well—what was the use of his coming between? Above all things he desired the happiness of the woman he loved—the woman who must be to him always the one woman. To secure that he would do anything—even to the sacrificing of himself and his own interests.

Many, many years ago, the words had been said to him, "You have made your bed . . . you must lie on it."

Hard though it was, he must lie on it still. It would at least be easier than to destroy the happiness of the woman he loved.

He schooled himself to say good bye to Mary the next day when they arrived in Liverpool, and they parted there, he to go to London on the presumed business which had brought him over, she to travel north to Hawkleigh.

"You will come and see me—in," she said, with a shy blush, "if you are ever in our part of the world, won't you?"

"I will, indeed. Good-bye, and good luck, Miss Boden. May everything work together for your good, and all your happiest hopes be realised."

. . . . . .

A month later Mary Boden was transformed into Mrs. Leslie, and Robert took formal possession of his estate. Godfrey Fearon had made no sign—no tidings even had been received about him—and he was, therefore, presumed to be dead. And no one noticed the stranger who looked on at the quiet little wedding from behind a distant pillar, and who watched the departure of the happy bride with such longing eyes.

That night, on board the outgoing boat bound for Quebec, Godfrey Bradshaw turned his back for ever on his old home—looking forward to the land of his adoption, resolutely giving up all the hopes and dreams which had filled his heart such a short time ago. He knew at least the beauty of sacrifice, and he knew that Mary had her heart's desire. That was happiness itself to him.

It was a couple of years later that Robert Leslie received a bundle of papers from a solicitor in Canada, with the tidings that a man, known throughout Canada as a wealthy colonist and a philanthropist of no mean order, named Godfrey Bradshaw, had lately died, leaving all he possessed to Mary Leslie, nee Boden. It further transpired that Godfrey Bradshaw was in reality Godfrey Fearon, for whom such fruitless search had been made.

"And he knew I was going to marry you—he knew all about the search, and he never spoke!" cried Mary Leslie, tears in her pretty eyes, when she heard the story. "Oh, why, Robert—why did he do such a thing?"

Perhaps Robert Leslie guessed the dead man's reason when he heard all Mary had to tell him of her friendship with the man who had called himself by his dead mother's name. At any rate, the name of Godfrey Fearon is spoken with great affection at the Manor House by Robert Leslie and his wife, and they will never forget—Mary especially—the man from Canada or the silence which gave them all they desired.

BEWARE OF DEBTS.

The tone and atmosphere of the home have lasting and real influence on the character of its inmates. There can be nothing healthy, genuine, and wholesome in a family where the fear of debt hangs heavily upon it. The great and difficult thing to do in life is to bring up a family which shall be courageous, strong, healthy-minded, self-respecting, and honest; but where the heads of the family are perpetually in fear of the creditor, of the don and the bailiff, the likelihood is that the children of that family will have something of the coward in their composition.

Spoilt the Chance.

They were two struggling journalists living together, partly because they admired each other's various excellent qualities, but principally because they were about the same size, and one suit of decent clothes did for both.

One night, by one of those extraordinary accidents which do happen sometimes, a poor, misguided burglar mistook their rooms for an adjoining suite, occupied by a wealthy fishmonger, and, hearing him fumbling in the darkness, one of them awoke. He listened intently for a moment.

"George," he cried, "there's a burglar in the room!"

"Well, of all the blundering idiots," grumbled his bedmate, "you're the worst I ever struck. Why on earth couldn't you have kept quiet? He might have dropped something!"

Always the Sermon.

An American was being shown over an old church beneath which hundreds of people were interred.

"A great many people sleep beneath this roof," said the guide, with a wave of his hand.

"Is that so?" exclaimed the American. "Same way over in our country. Why don't you get a more interesting preacher?"

Returned With Thanks.

A short time ago a gentleman sent a small boy in his neighborhood to deliver a note to a young lady who lived a few streets away.

He gave the boy twopence to make him hurry.

After a short time the messenger came back, and returning the money, said:

"Miss Jones says she will be glad to see you to-night, but she didn't want the twopence!"

"I think that young man's conduct is simply shocking."

"That's all right; it's professional with him. He's an electrician."

Claude (who has just been accepted): When shall I call and see papa?

Millie: Oh, Claude, dear; wait till next week. The dressmaker's bill will come home then!

He: Would I had a window in my bosom for you to see my emotion!

She: Would not a pain in the chest do as well?

A STOLEN IDENTITY.

A failure! Yes, it was impossible to hide the fact from himself any longer, and Roger Sefton gave a hard laugh as he leaned upon the table, his hands supporting his face, his whole attitude a living symbol of dejection.

He had given himself ten years to retrieve a ruined past, had tried his utmost, staking every remaining hope of his manhood upon the result, but still he faced a barred door that Fate refused to unlock for him, and stood outside the gate of Fortune an alien and outcast, no better than he had been ten years before, when he had first commenced starting afresh.

Yet there was one longing still burning within him—a desire to see his own country once more. England called him to come across the dividing seas, a call it was powerless for him to obey; otherwise how gladly he would have returned home, even though he reached England a penniless man. He could have hidden his head in some place where none who once remembered him might find him in his poverty. Yes, though it was to remain an alien even in his own land, anything to indulge this homesickness that consumed him. But in his present moneyless condition to do so was impossible.

He looked round his miserable lodging, inclined to revile the fates that ruled his life; then, unable to endure the solitude any longer, he took up his hat and made his way into the streets, with eyes downcast and steps that hurried along in aimless speed, until he was roused by the sound of a voice that spoke his name, and, glancing up, an instant flush came into his darkening face, and a lightning flash of fury into his sombre eyes, as their gaze fell upon the man who had addressed him—a tall, clumsily-built man, who spoke in thick tones, and whose face, half stupid, half cunning, had an odd expression upon it as he gazed at Sefton—a doubtful expression, full of hesitation.

He greeted the latter with noisy good humor and then was silent, for a curious ashen pallor had replaced that sudden rush of blood to Sefton's face. His lips were compressed into a thin line, and his limbs were braced, every muscle of his body taut, his hands clenched, and the other fell back at the sight of the fury which Sefton could scarcely control.

"Come, man"—he spoke in unsteady tones and blinked his eyes nervously—"you don't bear malice, surely? Listen. I'm ready to do the right thing if you think you owe me a grudge. Perhaps I did steal a march on you. But, you know, all such stratagems are fair when it's a question of a mining claim."

"Thief and liar, false friend and perjured scoundrel!" Sefton hissed the words out. "You call it stealing a march, that base betrayal of my trust in you, that assassination of my hopes. It was nothing but a cowardly theft, the claim which you pegged out for land which I had myself discovered. I——"

He choked back other words that clamored for utterance.

The other shook off his fit of apprehension, and chuckled with tipsy mirth.

"Listen to me, Roger. It was a low-down game I played you, I confess. But I'm willing to cry quits with you. I'm going back to England. Come with me as my guest. See me safe home, and when we land we can part in London if you wish; and I'll give—let me see—you shall have twenty pounds."

His cunning eyes were fixed upon Sefton's face. He saw the cold light of scorn that came into it for a moment, and he added eagerly:

"It shall be more, if only you'll come—say thirty pounds?"

"And you sold the claim for ten thousand pounds, after you had worked it for twenty thousand—the claim that was rightly mine? Your offer is a handsome one. Why do you want me to go with you?"

Julian Marl looked at him in silence for a moment.

"You're the only man I can trust," he said at last, with an outburst of frankness. "Let me get home again, amongst honest people, or every penny that I have will be stolen from me. Let me get to some country where I can drink as much as I please and yet keep a hold upon my own."

Sefton looked at him with a disgust it was powerless for him to conceal. He did not appreciate very highly the post that was offered him, for he saw that the other had rapidly deteriorated since they had parted. Yet here was the opportunity for which he had longed—the opportunity to return home again, and leave the arid bushland, parched and sandy beneath a burning sun, to trace the ways of woodland streams, to hear the song of wild birds, to rest in an English garden ablaze with summer flowers.

"Yes, I will go with you," he said, "and will accept your generous idea of reparation."

Marl eyed him doubtfully for a second, then his flushed and coarsened features took on an expression of intense relief, and he linked his arm through Sefton's.

But the latter shook him off a little roughly.

"Understand," he said, sternly, "there can never be again between you and me any thought or pretence of friendship. I can render you a service for which you offer me payment. But that is all."

The other drew away with a sullen frown that was quickly replaced by a look of vacuous satisfaction, and he lurched along by Sefton's side until both men reached the evil-looking hostelry which Marl had made his present lodging.

Here he placed in Sefton's hands money to pay for both passages in a steamer that was sailing the following day from Sydney. And now, satisfied that he had found someone who had accepted responsibility for himself, Marl appeared to regard that as sufficient excuse for further liquor indulgence, with the result that it was a drink-saddened wreck whom Sefton, with shame in his heart at the thought of his charge, brought on to the ship the following day.

Having reached his cabin, Marl resolutely refused to budge, and throwing himself into his bunk, proceeded to sleep off the effects of his heavy potations.

But Sefton did not want to sleep. He passed on to the promenade deck and began walking up and down with feverish restlessness. He fell into a bitter reverie that lasted he did not know how long, when suddenly all the ship seemed in commotion. He heard men's voices raised, shouting rapid orders, and above the cries that came from all sides was one of "Man overboard!" that carried with it a thrill which brought the passengers thronging forward, moved by a common impulse of pity and terror for the unfortunate creature lost in the waves beneath the mighty liner, whose engines had been instantly stopped, at the first alarm.

Sefton was amongst those who pressed eagerly forward, but the captain, who was to the fore, sent the rest back, though with a swift glance at Sefton he gave him a nod that admitted him into the small body of men making ready to enter one of the boats that had been swung down from the davits.

"It is your companion, I fear," he said quietly. "You may like to try a rescue with the others."

His eyes swept over the lithe, powerful form of Roger Sefton as he spoke, noted the splendid athletic condition, and had no fear of letting him join in with the other more experienced men.

Someone on deck had witnessed the accident, had seen the heavy, lumbering form leaning over the railing, and watched the catastrophe that swiftly followed. Whether the rail was weak, or whatever could be the case, whether a deliberate suicide, self-slaughter committed in the hour of depression that followed his drinking bout, who could tell? One thing was certain—that the man who had meant to enjoy the wealth which, in some measure, he had stolen from another, was lost in the waste of the sea, and though the steamship waited for some time—waited until an hour had elapsed—it was useless.

Sefton was silent when, at last, all bent to their oars and returned towards the big ship, blaming himself, yet somewhat harshly, for a certain degree of carelessness in not watching more closely the man he had accepted charge of.

He threw himself into his bunk, physically spent, and sheer fatigue brought sleep to him. A spoken name at last aroused him, and he found the steward in his cabin, addressing him in sympathetic tones, yet by a name that was certainly not his.

"It was a terrible tragedy, the drowning of your friend," he said. "It is, alas! only too certain that poor Mr. Sefton was drowned."

Sefton glanced at him with bewildered gaze, ready to utter words that would have explained the error, when something—some swift, over-mastering temptation, a seed that grew to fruition in a single instant of time—restrained him, and he remained silent.

But he lay there trembling, racked by conflicting thoughts, a struggle that was none the less intense because it was decided almost in a moment.

Why not? It was his money, after all. Why should he not let the mistake pass? Who was to know? Who would ever know?

Money stolen from him had been returned by the hands of Fate. He would not refuse the gift.

. . . . . .

Ah, how good it was to be back in England, home once more—not a fancied dream alone, but a vivid reality.

Roger Sefton pulled at the oars with strong, powerful strokes that sent the boat skimming along; then he paused, resting his eyes on the woman who faced him—the woman he loved.

"Esther, there is a question I have brought you out here on the river to ask. I want you to be my wife."

The words were spoken in soft, low tones, a whisper that the girl heard, and the color flashed into her face. Then something strange came into it, a sudden, vivid alteration, and her expression changed. Her eyes looked into his with no trace of tenderness in them, but only a mute scorn.

Then she spoke.

"I am glad to know," she said slowly, "that you care for me—glad to know, for one purpose alone. I want you to feel pain; I want you to suffer, as you have made others suffer in the past. That is why I am glad."

He stared at her with blank amazement, then guilty conscience gave a sudden start, and he grew hot with sudden shame and humiliation, for surely her strange words could mean only one thing. She had discovered the part he was playing—the identity he had stolen. He stood before her branded as a thief, one who had robbed the dead.

Once he had taken the decisive step there had been no retracing his way. It had all been easy—fatally easy. Yet, though all others were still duped, this girl must know; for what else should so suddenly have changed her? A week before—nay, only yesterday—her eyes had been soft, stealing his senses away, giving him silent encouragement on which he had built up dreams of the future.

"I did not know until to-day, the girl went on, speaking in a low, choked voice, "that you were the man who in the past ruined one whom I loved, one who was nearest and dearest to me—my own father—who placed his small fortune into your hands, losing it in bubble schemes which enriched only one person—yourself. I did not know until to-day that this plausible villain's true name was Julian Marl—this man who quietly left the country to avoid prosecution. But his ruined victims were left to face penury and misery; and my own father—it killed him. And you ask me now to be your wife—you have the cold callousness, the matchless impudence." Her bosom heaved, her hands were clenched together, her voice vibrated with burning contempt.

Sefton sat up in the boat rather stiffly, a prey to warring emotions that tugged at his heart and divided his mind. What should he say? Proclaim his imposture, tell her the truth? But would she believe him if he did? It was very doubtful. Would she regard him as otherwise than an audacious liar, who was seeking to shift her just indignation and hatred from his own self to a dead man? Or, suppose she did believe, would the light in which he would then stand revealed be any the less favorable? In either case she would turn from him. She would never give to him the love that he would have valued as the world's biggest prize.

"I suppose there is nothing that I could say which you would accept as the truth?" He spoke at last. "But I will say this much, if no more. Whatever wrong I have done in the world I am paying for it now—yes, paying very dearly, do not fear."

She looked at him, and he saw that her eyes were swimming with sudden tears. For a moment scorn and disgust were wiped out of her face.

"Why did you rob and cheat and ruin?" she asked, in softer tones. "I—I thought you a man who—well, it does not matter, only you have fallen in my eyes—fallen from a great height; and now the only thing I will ask of you is—to go away and never let me see you again."

. . . . . .

A week passed, and in obedience to that request he had not sought to approach Esther. Yet what an empty week it seemed, robbed of the interest that had made the hours throb with a vivid emotion, that had painted the future in celestial colors, changing it into the land of love's desire—an earthly paradise.

He was wondering what he should do with his barren days, half inclined to turn his back upon England and become an exile once more and begin life all over again.

He was tired of borrowed robes, of a borrowed name. His imposture weighed him down with a sense of burden it was impossible to find escape from. His action now seemed mean and paltry—almost unpardonable. He forgot the wrong that the dead man had placed upon him—the cowardly treachery. He felt ashamed of what he had done. A woman's accusing eye seemed to be condemning him for this thing she did not know about as well as for that which she imagined was his guilt.

Yes, he would cast it from him, divest himself of that which, rightly or wrongly, he had regarded as his own. He was glad when this resolution was taken for another reason. A man lately returned from Australia, one who had known both himself and Julian Marl, and had guessed the motive of Sefton's imposture, had breathed forth threats of vengeance and exposure upon Sefton's firm refusal to comply with certain blackmailing demands he had made as a price for silence.

He determined to lose no time in robbing the other of his power to sting, and, making his way to Bedford Row, he asked to see a partner of the legal firm with whom Julian Marl had kept in touch.

He was at once admitted into the presence of the senior partner—a white-haired, stately old man, who greeted him courteously. But Sefton cut short his words with a swift gesture.

"I wish to make a statement," he said. "It is rather a serious matter. I don't know what my position is. I suppose I am amenable to the law, although I have spent merely a very little of what the law will doubtless decide was never mine to touch." Then in a few brief sentences he made a full confession of his imposture.

Mr. Benson listened with startled attention, evidently at a loss what action to take.

"I must consult my partner," he said at length. "He is out of town at present, but will return shortly. In the meantime, I am sure you will give me your word to remain in London?"

Sefton smiled bitterly.

"Here is my address. I shall remain there a week, but after that lapse of time shall hold myself free to depart if I wish."

He left the lawyers' office with a wonderful sense of relief upon him. He was himself once more, not masquerading as another.

He turned away from Bedford Row and strolled through the streets, his mind absent, straying after forbidden things.

At last he returned to his rooms, starting back as he crossed the threshold, for a woman stood within—a tall, slight figure—a few paces from where he himself paused, arrested by astonishment.

He looked into her face, unable himself to speak, but seeking to read there what had brought her to his rooms. He wondered at the light in her eyes, the transfiguring light, that seemed to shine a radiance from her very soul. Scorn and contempt had faded. Her lips were tender. The old smile had come back to her face.

"Someone came to me to-day—some man from Australia—and told me a strange story," she said. "The vile part of it seemed almost unimportant to me. All I cared then to hear was that you were not the true Julian Marl, and therefore not guilty of ruining my father and sending him to his grave. For the rest, I am convinced that you have some explanation that must exonerate you."

He gazed round the little room with a bewildering sense of joy. Then he spoke, a note of hope in his voice.

"This man—I can guess who it was—told you but the truth. I stole Marl's identity, for mercenary reasons alone. I wanted his money—money that should in very justice have been mine, yet as things stood I was but a common thief. That, however, I have taken steps to amend. I have renounced the claim to what was never really mine——" He paused.

"And have gained——" There was a sweet confusion for a moment in her face, and her voice dropped. She looked with appealing eyes towards him. Why would he not help her? But Sefton was immovable. "And have gained my love, if you still want it," she said, bravely.

His features changed into an expression of almost unbelievable joy, and he held her in his arms.

. . . . . .

Neither exile from England, nor the disgrace which he somewhat anticipated awaited Roger Sefton.

The following day he received a letter from Mr. Benson, which he opened with natural misgivings. But its contents drove away the fear that had come to him, and made him take back all that he had said against a man who had been treacherous and a scoundrel during his life, but now had seemed to stretch a hand from the grave to undo all the wrong that had robbed Sefton of a fortune.

In brief, the letter informed the latter that some months back Julian Marl had despatched a will to England, together with a letter in which he expressed his intention of committing suicide, and in this will he had named the man he had robbed of his "claim" as his heir.

And in this manner the pathway was made clear for Roger to tread—a pathway lighted by the rosy glow of love.

BLIND MAN COULD SEE IT.

John B. Herreshoff, the blind yacht builder, of Bristol, Rhode Island, was a guest at a large party in Bristol, when the hostess was proudly displaying a cabinet just received from an antique shop in New York, and bought for seven hundred dollars as a product of the year 1710. It was observed by one of the other guests that Herreshoff alone refrained from favorable comment, although the old man had examined the cabinet by his delicate touch. Finding an opportunity, the man approached Herreshoff and asked him the reason for his silence. Herreshoff chuckled.

"I'll let you into a secret, if you don't breathe a word of it to the good Mrs. ——," he said.

The promise having been given, Herreshoff led the way with his unerring directness to the cabinet, and, extracting a drawer, he ran the tips of his fingers lightly over the bottom and chuckled again:

"Circular saws in 1710? Poor Mrs. B——!"

SELF-RELIANCE.

Man is timid and apologetic; he is no longer upright; he dares not say, "I think," "I am," but quotes some saint or sage. He is ashamed before the blade of grass or the blowing rose. These roses under my window make no reference to former roses or to better ones; they are for what they are; they exist for God to-day. There is no time for them. There is simply the rose; it is perfect in every moment of its existence. Before a leaf had has burst, its whole life rests; in the leafless root there is no less; in the full-blown flower there is no more, its nature is satisfied, and it satisfies Nature in all moments alike. But man postpones or remembers; he does not live in the present, but with reverted eye laments the past, or, heedless of the riches that surround him, stands on tiptoe to foresee the future. He cannot be happy and strong until he, too, lives with Nature in the present, above time.—Emerson.

Up to Standard.

An American and an Englishman, walking through a town in Ireland, were discoursing upon the proverbial wit of the Irish. The American expressed some doubt as to whether it was as smart as it was generally believed to be, so they determined to test the next passer-by. Accordingly the following dialogue took place:

"Pat," said the American, "if the devil were to come along now which would he take first, you or me?"

"Sure, sir, it would be me," promptly replied Pat.

"And why is that?"

"Indad, the crafty old gentleman is sharp of you at any toime."

A young couple recently got married; and, having friends to see them one day, the wife was very much annoyed by hearing her husband calling everything in the house and garden his.

After they were gone, she remonstrated with him.

"John, why do you insist upon calling everything yours? Now that we are married you should say 'ours.'"

John was silent. The next morning, hearing a commotion in the dressing-room, his wife called out:

"John, what are you looking for?"

"Our trousers!" was the unexpected reply.

Credulity is the man's weakness, but the child's strength.

WISDOM THAT WOBBLES.

How oft we find man's wisest thoughts
By contradictions crossed—
We're told to look before we leap,
Yet who hesitates is lost.

'Tis said fine feathers make fine birds,
And so they do; yet note,
Another saw declares a man
Is not made by his coat.

Give bad name to a dog, you may
As well go hang the same,
Or so says one; and yet we hear
There's nothing in a name.

Events advancing, it is said,
Their shadows do project,
And yet the thing that happens
Is the thing we don't expect.

"Sauce for the goose"—you know the way
It runs—yet what of this
Which plainly says that one man's meat
Another's poison is?

To him who waits all things will come,
Is comfort for the meek;
The man of push quotes someone else,
"He who would find must seek."

A little learning, we are told,
Is dangerous—Egad!
What's then to do, if this be true:
"Much learning makes one mad"?

IMMUNITY TO DISEASE.

A person attacked by a disease of microbial origin becomes immune to that disease for a longer or shorter period, and often for life. In some cases the immunity is transmitted to offspring. An infant whose mother has been vaccinated shortly before its birth is born immune and will not, for several months at least, react to vaccination. The Latin author Lucian describes an African tribe which enjoyed an inherited immunity to snake venom, and tested this immunity by allowing the newly-born infants to be bitten by snakes. Doctor Calmette's experiments of immunising animals to snake bite by means of snake venom show that if the bite thus inflicted did not prove fatal it would increase and make permanent the immunity already possessed by the child.

Certain diseases which were very fatal when they first appeared in Europe have become comparatively mild. This result is doubtless due in part to a relative immunity acquired by the race in consequence of repeated infection. The harmlessness of certain microbes may be explained in the same way. Even in health we harbor various microbes which are certainly pathogenic but whose virulence has become weakened. The mouths of many persons contain the pneumococci which can kill, in twenty-four hours, mice into which they are injected.

The mechanism of the acquirement of immunity has been revealed by very ingenious experiments. Organic substances introduced into the tissues are there destroyed by a sort of digestive process, and if the patient survives the disturbance thus caused, he becomes immune to those particular substances. Sheep's blood injected into the peritoneum of a rabbit is absorbed, and the blood of the rabbit acquires the power to dissolve and destroy sheep's blood, even outside of the body. Similarly every kind of bacillus develops its specific anti-body. Cholera vibriones injected into a guinea-pig flourish and multiply as they do in the best bouillon. If the bacilli are not very virulent or the dose is very small, the animal survives and becomes immune to cholera, as the result of the inoculation or a series of inoculations of gradually increasing strength.

This phenomenon is general, although more or less clearly defined with different species of germs.

AEROPLANES TO CARRY MAIL.

Orville Wright and his sister, Miss Katharine Wright, sailed the other day from New York on the Kronprinzessin Cecilie, of the North German Lloyd Line.

In general, he said, the American public is far less interested in aerial flights than are the people of Europe. In England, for instance, he said, the countrymen would gather from miles around to see a straight-away aeroplane flight, while in the United States the crowd was not satisfied unless the aeronaut did some acrobatic stunts. Mere flying was too tame for them. That was what an airship was built to do. They wanted to see something extra hazardous.

Wright thinks his machine is the superior of any foreign make.

"All the foreign machines that can fly at all are more or less adaptations of our earlier drawings," he said. For speed, endurance, and general practicability he feels sure that the Wright machines have not been surpassed. He has yet to learn, he says, of any official time made by a foreigner of more than 38 miles an hour, while in some of his short flights in Washington he made 50 miles an hour, or better.

The standard machine that he is turning out now, he says, can ascend to the height of one mile, though the decreasing atmospheric density would make the feat difficult, and can carry sufficient gasolene to remain in the air for 25 hours at an average speed of 30 to 40 miles an hour. It can also be built to carry more than two passengers, though at present there is no demand for more than the two-passenger machine.

Hereafter, he says, he is going to try for no more records in competition with other aeronauts, but confine his efforts to perfecting his machine. He feels sure that within a comparatively short time we may see our mails carried by aeroplanes, though a freight machine seems out of the question.

Examine your lives, weigh your motives, watch over your conduct, and you will not take long to discover enough to make you entertain charitable opinions of others. Be harsh in your judgment of self; be tender in your judgment of others.

The one thing supremely worth the having is the opportunity, coupled with the capacity, of doing a thing well and worthily, the doing of which is for the welfare of mankind.

It's difficult to please yourself and everybody else at the same time.

Mind your own business—unless you are getting paid for minding other people's.

Work begun willingly is half-done.

If you have a quick temper, spare no effort to conquer it. Losing one's temper means losing peace of spirit, losing control over self, losing clearness of thought, losing grasp of the situation, and usually losing the respect of bystanders. Yet foolish people speak of "only losing one's temper" as if it were nothing.

"Although it is safe to say that almost any green fodder crop is capable of being turned into ensilage, it is a mistake to think that silage is such a marvellous thing it actually acquires, during the slow and gradual process of fermentation to which it is, of course, subjected, more nutritious qualities than the green stuff itself contained previous to being preserved. A perfect silage crop should be bulky, succulent, and composed of plants in which the flesh-forming and heat-producing elements are harmonised in the best proportions for the economical feeding of the crop."—"N.Z. Farmer."

THE DEMORALISING SAFETY PIN.

The safety pin is a most useful invention, but one which, when abused by over-use, becomes not only a physical but a moral danger. The ardent follower of the safety pin is, without doubt, slovenly in her habits. She has put the safety pin into the place that ought to be occupied by the needle. And she has got into the habit of hustling into her clothes without examining them

THE HEIRESS of HILLDROP

By Bertha M. Clay.

CHAPTER VI.

Before Lady Tollemache had been many hours under the same roof with him, she had come to the conclusion that she might do worse than win Sir Cyril Laurayne for her husband. She was really in love with him—after her own fashion. He was handsome, he was the owner of a large estate, and he had no encumbrance, except his pretty little daughter. She would not perhaps have married him if he had had a son, as in that case she would always have held a secondary position; but, as matters stood, nothing could be better. Nor was it altogether self-interest that prompted her. She really liked the handsome widower, and would have been willing to marry him had he been less rich and popular.

It was all right so far. She had herself decided, and others had privately agreed, that marriage would be a most excellent thing for her as well as for Sir Cyril. The next question was—How could that impression be conveyed to him? Clever Lady Tollemache knew the way to his heart—she devoted herself to his daughter. She talked, with tears in her dark eyes, of the sacrifice she had to make in keeping her dear children at school—some people shrewdly suspected that the fair widow was pleased to have them out of the way—and she contrived to spend the greater part of her time with Constance; but, although she loaded her with presents and was kindness itself to her, she never won the honest heart of the child. When she was with Sir Cyril, it was never of himself or herself that she spoke, but always of Constance. A mutual interest in the child drew them together. If Sir Cyril thought she was looking pale, was out of spirits, or in any way ailing, it was to Lady Tollemache he went for advice. The widow never wearied of listening; she soothed his anxieties, calmed his distress, gave him cheering words.

Her ladyship took the child out for long rambles in the morning, for pleasant drives in the afternoon, and Sir Cyril naturally grew interested in the charming woman who was so kind and gracious to him and to his.

One day, in the presence of Lady Aston, Sir Cyril said to his daughter:

"Connie, how kind Lady Tollemache is to you! Do you love her?"

"No," answered the child promptly. "I do not."

"How is that?" asked Sir Cyril. "Why do you not love her, my dear?"

"I do not believe in her," was the quick reply.

Lady Aston laughed outright.

"The child is jealous," she said. "I told you, Sir Cyril, that you would spoil her. She wants a good step-mother, since Heaven has taken her own mother."

Sir Cyril made no reply, but kissed the sweet, upturned face. Probably at that moment he had not dreamed of putting another woman in her dead mother's place. Although the danger was vague and intangible, and the child, even to herself, could not have put it into words, she was pleased and relieved when she and her father left Aston. They travelled for some time in the lake district, then went yachting in the Northern seas, and afterwards they returned to Broome.

Philippa, Lady Laurayne, had been dead a little over a year when Sir Cyril sent for his daughter one morning, saying that he wished particularly to see her. He was waiting for her in the library when Constance came tripping in. She was nine years old now, and was both tall and well formed for her age. She stood before him, slight and fair, her golden hair streaming over her shoulders. Sir Cyril clasped her in his arms and covered her face with kisses. He had something to say to her, but he did not quite know how to begin.

"Connie, my dear," he said at last, "you love me, and you desire my happiness above all things, do you not?"

"Yes," she answered; "and I will make you happy, papa."

"I have found someone who also desires to make me happy."

"I can make you happy, papa, darling," she said, stroking his face. "You need not—indeed you need not—have anyone else but me."

"My dear little daughter," he said gently, "I am going to be married. I am going to marry Lady Tollemache. She will come here to live with us and take care of us both."

"Lady Tollemache!" exclaimed the child, in dismay. "Oh, papa, we do not want her—we do not indeed!"

"I want her, Connie," he said gravely; "and you will want her when you are a few years older."

"No," she cried, "I never shall! I have my own mamma in heaven, papa."

"Ah, my darling, but you will need one on earth!" he answered, patting her cheek. "You will find it out as you grow older. You must be good and docile, and when Lady Tollemache comes, you must try to love and obey her. She loves you very much, and I want you to love her."

"I never can," was the sobbing reply. "I tried before, but I could not. Oh! papa, do not have anyone here with us; we are so happy alone!"

Slowly enough it began to dawn upon Constance that Lady Tollemache was coming to fill her mother's place. She looked at her father with the big blue eyes that were always so full of thought.

"Papa," she asked wistfully, "will she come to take my mother's place?"

"She will be my wife, and mistress of Broome," he answered.

"But never my mamma," she put in.

"No, my dear," he said, "never your mother; but she will do her best to be a good stepmother to you. I want you to love her for my sake."

"Will it really make you happier?" she asked, anxiously.

"Yes, much happier," Sir Cyril answered. "Only Heaven knows how I miss your mother, or what home is to me without her. It will be brighter and more cheerful when Lady Tollemache comes. Besides, she has two little daughters, who will be friends and playfellows for you. Now smile, and tell me that you are pleased, Constance."

She smiled; but her young heart was full of pain as she thought of her beloved mother. It was not long since she had died in her husband's arms, and already he was bringing someone to put in her place.

The day came at last when Sir Cyril brought his new wife home. There were no outward signs of rejoicing—everyone felt that they would be out of place; but the grand old mansion was made to look very bright and cheerful.

All the household, except Sarah King, the nurse, were prepared to welcome the new mistress. To Sarah, the faithful nurse, who had attended the heiress of Hilldrop from the hour of her birth, it seemed little less than sacrilege that another mistress should be brought to Broome—and so soon too. Against the advice of the other servants, she dressed the child in black; when the housekeeper remonstrated, she made a compromise, and substituted a white dress with black ribbons.

"He shall have something to put him in mind of his first wife," she muttered to herself.

"Nurse," said Constance, "must I call papa's new wife mamma?"

"No," Sarah replied, "never do that. A man may have two wives; a child has only one mother. No, never do that, Miss Constance."

There was no ringing of bells when the new Lady Laurayne came home to Broome; there was no demonstration of welcome. The domestics received their new mistress with quiet respect; but in the heart of the little heiress there were hot anger and bitter indignation.

Sir Cyril gave orders that she should be brought down into the drawing-room after dinner; and thither, in her white dress and black ribbons, Sarah King conducted her.

"Little Constance!" cried Lady Laurayne, opening her arms.

But Constance stood shyly aloof.

"Why has the child those black ribbons on?" asked Sir Cyril, angrily. "Who dressed her?"

"I did, sir," replied the nurse, who had not left the room.

Sir Cyril's face darkened.

"Take her away," he said sternly, "and when you have dressed her properly bring her back to me."

In silence the nurse led the child from the room.

Lady Laurayne was the first to speak.

"Never mind, Cyril," she said, in soothing tones. "I am sure it was an inadvertence."

"If I thought so, I should not care," he replied. "It seems to me like studied disrespect to you."

"I am sure it is not that," she rejoined. "Nurse is too sensible and Constance too young to think of such a thing."

When Constance went to bid Sir Cyril good-night, she kissed him with something like despair in her heart; then she went up to the beautiful woman who sat watching her.

"Good-night, Lady Laurayne," she said.

Her ladyship smiled as she answered:

"What a very formal address, little Constance! Will you not call me 'mamma'?"

"I cannot," the girl answered; "my mamma is in heaven."

"Then will you call me 'mother'?" said Lady Laurayne.

"Papa told me that I could have but one mother," was the quick reply.

Lady Laurayne smiled again.

"This is most certainly a dilemma," she answered. "Well, call me anything you like, dear—only promise to love me."

The days went by, but Lady Laurayne was never unkind to her step-daughter. She could have inflicted many petty annoyances upon Constance, but she refrained from anything of the kind. She was never jealous of the great affection that existed between father and daughter; she rather encouraged it than otherwise. She never made complaints to Sir Cyril, as she might have done, and everyone said what a fortunate thing it was for the child that she had such an excellent step-mother.

Of the whole household, the little heiress of Hilldrop and her faithful nurse, Sarah King, were the only ones who distrusted the new mistress of Broome.

CHAPTER VII.

Young as Constance was, she never forgot the first visit paid by Lady Laurayne to Hilldrop Priory. Sir Cyril drove them over one morning when the Priory was looking its fairest and best.

Her ladyship was delighted with it. She turned to her husband with a smile and a faint flush on her beautiful face.

"Do you know, Cyril," she said, "I would rather live here than at Broome. I prefer it, because it has the charm of antiquity."

"I am a little disappointed at hearing you say so," laughed Sir Cyril.

"We might live here for a month or two in the autumn," Lady Laurayne went on. "With these magnificent woods, this would be a charming autumn house. I think the trees are seen at their best in the autumn."

"We shall never live here, my dear," replied Cyril. "Hilldrop belongs to Constance. When she grows up, it will be hers, and she must live here.

The child was standing beside them. She heard every word of the conversation; and the time came when she reminded her step-mother of it.

Lady Laurayne looked quickly up into her husband's face.

"I have heard that before," she said. "At Aston people were always talking about the little heiress of Hilldrop. But how is it? Why must Hilldrop so surely go to her?"

"It was never mine," answered Sir Cyril. "It was given to my first wife by Miss Trafford; and Philippa had some peculiar ideas. She did not like marriage settlements. We were both young, and very much in love, and we were married without any."

"Without any marriage settlement? How strange!" cried Lady Laurayne.

"It seems strange to me now," went on Sir Cyril; "but at the time I thought of nothing but my wife's deep love and trust. She wished me to have a share of everything she had; but it was always understood that Constance was to have Hilldrop."

"Such a vague understanding would not content me," said Lady Laurayne.

"I have made it quite safe," remarked Sir Cyril. "Shortly after my wife died I made my will, and in that Constance is made heiress of Hilldrop beyond dispute."

These words were remembered afterwards both by Lady Laurayne and the girl whom they concerned.

"Constance is a very fortunate child," said her ladyship, bending down to kiss her. "I should like a Hilldrop Priory all my own."

"I wish I could give you one," laughed Sir Cyril; "but in all England there is not another Hilldrop."

All the rest of that day Lady Laurayne was more than usually thoughtful. That she was thinking of Hilldrop was evident from the fact that, when she did make any remark, it was of the Priory that she spoke.

"I wish," she said once, "that our entrance hall had as noble an appearance as that at Hilldrop."

Again she broke a rather long silence during dinner by saying suddenly:

"I like the arrangement of the picture-gallery at Hilldrop, Cyril, and the gallery is a finer one than ours."

Later on in the evening she remarked:

"I think the corridors at Hilldrop are wider than these, Cyril."

"I shall grow jealous of Hilldrop in time," he answered, with a smile.

Lady Laurayne had taken a violent fancy to the place, and for some days talked of but little else.

Day by day Sir Cyril grew fonder of and more devoted to his beautiful wife. Under her energetic rule Broome became one of the most hospitable mansions in the country. There was always something on the tapis—a ball, a picnic, a garden party, charades, or private theatricals. Lady Laurayne delighted in entertaining visitors; and she soon became one of the most popular of hostesses.

Sir Cyril never neglected any wish or desire that she expressed, and they were spoken of everywhere as a model pair. There were times when Lady Laurayne wondered if she held the same place in her husband's heart as his first wife had; she wondered if his thoughts went back to that peaceful time when Philippa reigned at Broome.

A little incident occurred which caused her some pain.

Some friends had been dining at Broome, and the conversation turned upon a melancholy subject; it was whether the dead who had loved us know what passed on earth. The matter was argued at length; but Sir Cyril took little part in the discussion, and his wife noticed that he was more than usually thoughtful. That same evening Lady Laurayne saw him take up a book. He was soon absorbed in it, and, to her surprise, when he laid it down, she noticed that tears stood in his eyes; then he rose from his chair abruptly and quitted the room. Curiosity prompted her to look at the book. She found in it one of the most beautiful poems she had ever read, called "The Tryst," and she felt, even before she read it, that it had recalled the memory of his lost wife:—

Farewell, beloved! We will not weep—
'tis but a little while;
When the snow is gone, I shall return
with spring's returning smile.
Where sunlight falls, with shade and
rain from hurrying clouds that
sweep,
With naught betwixt me and the sky,
there lay me down to sleep.
The place is known to me and you, nor
needs it more should know,
So raise no stone at head or feet, but
let the wild-flowers blow.

And then some little part of me will
creep up through the mould,
The brightness of my hair will gleam
from kingcups' heart of gold;
The blue that's faded from my eyes
will meet your eyes again,
When the little speedwells on my
grave smile softly after rain;
When the warm blood is frozen at my
heart and on my lips,
Kneel down above the dust and kiss
the daisy's coral tips.

And when from out the sunset a little
breeze comes by,
And a flush of deeper color steals
across the upper sky;
When the beech-leaves touch and
tremble, whisper soft, and then
are still,
And a bird hid in the thicket sings
out sudden, sweet, and shrill;

When faint voices of the evening mur-
mur peace across the land,
And silver mists creep up and fold the
woods on either hand,

Or in the early morning, when the
world is yet asleep,
And the dew lies white in all the shade
where the grass is green and deep,
You'll find me there, love, waiting
you; and you may smile and say,
"I met my darling all alone at our old
tryst to-day;

I looked into her eyes so blue, I
stroked her hair of gold—
We kissed each other on the lips as
in the days of old!

"It was her voice, so low, so clear,
that in mine ears did sound:
'Beloved, there's no such thing as
death; 'tis life that I have found:
The life that thrills in leaf and flower,
and fills the woods with song,
That throbs in all the gleaming stars
when winter nights are long—
The life that passes with the winds
from utmost shore to shore,
Embracing all the mighty world, is
mine forever more.'"

She read the words again and again, and she felt pained, and wondered if it were possible that in the depths of his heart he loved that first wife still. But, when she saw him next, he appeared to have forgotten all about "The Tryst." He was making arrangements for a dinner-party, just as though he had never known the pain of parting with one he had loved so dearly.

A great event happened soon after this—the birth of the heir of Broome; and then Sir Cyril's happiness was complete. There were chiming of bells and general rejoicing. Never was a babe more welcome. He was named Austin, after one of the early Laurences, who had especially distinguished himself. Sir Cyril's heart was so light, he was so happy, that he determined upon having Lady Laurayne's two little daughter's brought home to Broome.

Constance was ten years old when her baby-brother was born. She had looked forward with some curiosity to the home-coming of the little girls, who were nearly her own age.

They did not much resemble their mother. Blanche was pale of face, tall and slender, with the promise of what would one day be a beautiful figure, but, unfortunately, her hair was unmistakably red. Edith had dark eyes and dark hair; her features were decidedly plain, and she was inclined to be stout.

They were not particularly amiable girls. They quarrelled a great deal between themselves; but in the presence of Sir Cyril they were always sweet-tempered. In the nursery many a battle royal was fought, many a wordy war raged hotly, many a skirmish took place, which was never known to the "authorities." Sir Cyril was always kindness itself to his step-daughters, and he loved his little son; but the great affection of his heart was for Constance—the child known throughout the house and in all the district as the heiress of Hilldrop.

So time passed on, nothing of importance taking place, until Constance had reached her twentieth year.

CHAPTER VIII.

Ten years had not wrought much change in the master and mistress of Broome. Sir Cyril was as handsome and as light of heart as he had ever been; and Lady Laurayne looked almost as fair as she had looked on the day of their marriage.

Time had done much for Constance; she had grown into a beautiful girl; and Sir Cyril did not disguise the fact that she was the very pride of his heart. She had still the same characteristics; there was the same spiritual expression of face, the same sweet, thoughtful gravity, that was in itself so great a charm. She was in no sense an ordinary girl; her character was by no means a common one; she never tolerated gossip or took the slightest interest in light or frivolous conversation.

The years had passed so quickly and, despite a few drawbacks, so happily that neither Sir Cyril nor Lady Laurayne realised that their daughters were grown up, that it was time they were "presented" and began to take life seriously.

Constance did not associate much with her step-sisters—not from any motive of pride, dislike, or jealousy, but simply because their occupations and tastes differed entirely. The sisters enjoyed discussing dress, parties, and admirers; Constance was happiest when painting flowers—and, indeed, she possessed considerable artistic talent.

Sir Cyril said to her laughingly one day:

"If you had not been an heiress, you would have been an artist, Constance."

And she answered, with a sweet, serious smile:

"I would rather be heiress of Hilldrop than anything else in the world, papa."

Constance Laurayne cared little for visiting and galeties; and Sir Cyril, knowing this, had not sought to influence her. When she was seventeen, something had been said of her presentation at Court; but Constance had begged that it might be deferred, as she preferred the quiet, happy home-life to any social triumphs. Sir Cyril yielded to her wish; and, instead of taking his daughter to town, he built for her a studio, where she could pursue her beloved art in peace.

Time had dealt gently with the twin sisters. Blanche, according to the promise of her childhood, had grown into a tall, slender girl with a beautiful figure. Her face was plain, but by no means unpleasant, and she sang charmingly. Her great drawback was still her hair. Edith had grown unbecomingly stout, a state to which she greatly objected.

Lady Laurayne looked after the settlement of her daughters very earnestly. With Constance she did not interfere; that was Sir Cyril's affair, and doubtless he would do his best for her. The most eligible men in the county were the young Duke of Hartwell, Sir Harry Coombe of Coombe, Lord Riversley of Knowle, and Sir William Purton. Lady Laurayne certainly left no stone unturned to secure husbands for her girls, and she managed to have these gentlemen constantly at Broome, but the mother herself was so charming that the girls had little chance of shining in her presence.

The four men all greatly admired Constance; but she never gave them any encouragement. Both Blanche and Edith had resolved that one of them should be Duchess of Hartwell—and indeed the achievement did not seem a very difficult matter to either of them, for the duke was young, rich, and rather impressionable. A clever girl might have made an easy conquest of him; but neither Blanche nor Edith had sufficient talent for that. Constance was never unkind or contemptuous to the duke; she treated him with gentle consideration; but he would as soon have thought of wooing a princess of the blood royal as of asking the heiress to be his wife.

"I should like my daughters to marry while they are young," said Lady Laurayne to one of her intimate friends. "I think twenty-one or twenty-two a very sensible age for marriage," she continued; "brides of seventeen or eighteen are a mistake. Of course," she added frankly, "there will be no difficulty about Constance—she is so beautiful and attractive. But it is altogether different with my girls; they are not beautiful, and they do not take pains to make themselves attractive."

Lady Laurayne smiled as she spoke. She had often wondered how it was that she had daughters so unlike herself. She had done her best with their training and education, and had made the utmost of the slightest sign of talent shown by either of them.

Blanche had a fine voice, and every attention had been paid to her singing; she had a good figure, and Lady Laurayne had insisted upon her having the best of dancing-masters.

Edith would never either sing or dance well, and therefore no time had been wasted on either of those accomplishments. She had her own especial gift—that of conversation. True, at times it degenerated into flippancy—she often mistook ill-nature for wit; still she had in an especial manner the gift of amusing others. She was quick at repartee; she could relate a story in a telling and amusing fashion; she had a faculty, too, of seeing the humorous side of anything. If ever Lady Laurayne had visitors whom she had a difficulty in entertaining, Edith was the one chosen to amuse them, and she generally succeeded.

That in itself was no mean quality; and no one appreciated it more than did the Duke of Hartwell. His one great desire was to be kept constantly amused—a thing most difficult of attainment. Lady Laurayne noted with satisfaction that he enjoyed talking to Edith, and that he would take his seat by her side with the air of one who anticipated a good laugh.

"I do like a girl who can amuse one; a girl who knows how to tell a good story!" he would say.

And Lady Laurayne was sanguine as to the success of her plans, while the two sisters were equally sanguine as to winning the young duke.

Their mother gave them excellent advice.

"I am quite sure, my dear children," she said, "that if you manage well one of you may be Duchess of Hartwell. The duke seems equally smitten with Blanche's fine singing and beautiful figure and Edith's merry ways and dark eyes. I must trust a great deal to your common-sense and judgment, Edith, if you see that the duke is inclined to favor Blanche, and that there is a chance of his making her an offer, do not in any way interfere, but help your sister. It will be the most fortunate thing that could happen. Do not let any jealousy or rivalry spoil such a splendid prospect. And you, Blanche, if the duke prefers Edith, help your sister in every way you can."

The sisters did not regard each other too lovingly. The prize was a valuable one, and both were desirous of winning it.

Blanche looked down with some little disdain at her less-favored sister.

"I cannot say that you would make a very elegant duchess," she said, "especially as you grow stouter every day, Edith dear."

"And I'm sure I don't think your red hair would be any recommendation," retorted Edith.

"Now, my dear children," interposed Lady Laurayne, in distress, "this is just what I want to prevent, what I dread occurring. If this discord goes on, you will ruin each other's chances. Be patient and amiable, and praise, rather than disparage, each other."

"Candidly, mamma, do you not think that I am more fitted by nature to be a duchess than Edith?" asked Blanche.

"You certainly have a good figure and a beautiful voice, Blanche," answered Lady Laurayne, thoughtfully.

"But," put in Edith, "I can amuse him, dear, and you cannot. I can make him laugh whenever I choose."

"You cannot sing," said Blanche, triumphantly.

"I need not while I have a fund of good stories," answered Edith.

Lady Laurayne was in despair.

"You will stand no chance whatever," she declared, "if you dispute after this fashion. I wish you were both more like Constance."

The girls laughed derisively.

"Constance will never have an admirer," said Blanche. "She cares more for flower-painting."

"Constance possesses both good sense and refinement," said Lady Laurayne severely. "She would neither speak nor act as you are doing now."

But Lady Laurayne's lectures were all in vain. Neither sister could endure the thought that the other should win the Duke.

For some weeks his grace seemed to be wavering between the two girls; he seemed equally attracted by both. If one had given way, the other must have been successful; but neither would do so. Blanche drew his attention so continually to the unbonpoint of her sister, to the probability of Edith becoming most alarmingly stout, that the Duke took alarm—for he had a great aversion to stout women. Edith, in her turn, made so many quaint comments upon ruddy hair, though he could not help laughing at them, he took fright again, and determined not to choose either.

That hope dispelled, stars of lesser magnitude appeared in the Broome firmament; but, strangely enough, none of them showed any disposition to take Lady Laurayne's daughters off her hands.

(To be continued.)

PLUCKINGS.

It is more profitable to read one man than ten books.—Ste. Bouve.

I find nonsense singularly refreshing.—Talleyrand.

We endeavor to make a merit of faults we are unwilling to correct.—La Rochefoucauld.

He who despairs wants love, wants faith; for faith, hope and love are three torches which blend their light together, nor does the one shine without the other.

There is one thing more important than knowing self; it is governing self. There is one thing better than crushing impulse, it is using impulse.—Rev. H. R. Hawois.

If there be evil, let us remember that we are not looking at a tragedy that we may bowall over it, but living in a time of difficulty that we may work.—T. T. Lynch.

Do not despise little things; the widow's mite was as precious as the rich man's gift. So should little acts of kindness be appreciated when emanating from a poor and generous heart.

One's nose on a grindstone often sharpens one's wits.

DAIRYING.

COW TESTING ASSOCIATIONS.

A cow testing association is simply a co-operative business association among dairymen. The dairymen of a community (writes Mr. C. C. Lillie in the "Michigan Farmer"), realising the importance of testing the individuality of their cows, organise into a business association, and hire a man to go from farm to farm to do this testing. Someone says, "If that's all there is to it, why don't the farmers themselves do the testing?" and echo answers "Why? Yes, why don't the farmers do this testing?" I have tried to solve this problem in my own mind, and the conclusion I have come to is that because the farmer has so very many things to do he doesn't have time to do these things and many others that he ought to do. Consequently, his cows are not tested. He goes on from year to year without knowing anything about the individuality of his cows. When he realises sufficiently the importance of the question, then he is willing to co-operate with his neighbours.

The great object of a cow testing association is to test each cow for economical production. The idea is not to find out how much the cows will produce, to see how much you can make them yield by excessive feeding, or anything of that sort. The idea is to find the net profits from each cow. This is the question that dairymen are interested in. Are there cows in the herd that make no profit at all? Unless we keep, as it were, a book account for each cow, we do not know whether we have some that are making us no profit, or not, consequently we are liable to keep cows year after year in the herd that are paying us little or no profit; when by keeping careful records of the cows we will be able to cull out each year the unprofitable ones, and, in a short time, raise the standard of our herd so that we would realise a much larger profit at dairying.

Now, the cow tester is a young man competent to weigh the milk of each cow, take a sample of it correctly, test this sample accurately for butter-fat, estimate the cost per annum of the keep of each cow, and charge each cow with the cost of her feed and give her credit for the butter-fat or milk she produces at the market price. This is keeping a personal account with each cow. At the end of each month he figures out the profit made by each cow and leaves a record of these figures with the farmer. He also keeps in a book for that purpose a copy of this record. At the end of the year he gives to the farmer a complete record of what each cow in his herd has done that year, giving the total number of pounds of milk produced, the average test of this milk, the total number of pounds of butter-fat produced, and the market price of this product, whether in butter-fat or in milk. Then he figures out the cows' keep, and charges up to the cow and simply strikes the balance so that the farmer can see at a glance just how much profit each cow has produced.

Now, all cows that have made a good profit are retained in the herd. Those that make little or no profit are sold. The result is that the farmer does not keep on rearing calves from these poor cows, but only from the best. If in addition to this he will purchase his dairy sire of some one of the exclusive dairy breeds, breeding his best cows to this sire and saving the calves from his best cows, it is only a question of a few years when he has made a marked improvement in the profitableness of his herd.

The Michigan State Dairy and Food Department is fostering and encouraging these cow testing associations. There is no work that will better dairy conditions greater than this. This department furnishes blank books for the cow testers, blank leaves to be filled out and left with the farmer, and then the complete yearly records of each association are published in bulletin form for breeders' convenience. These records are interesting reading.

DIET.

It is extraordinary what wonders are wrought by a change of diet, and persons who vary their way of living from the ordinary diet of meats, white bread, etc., to fruits and cereals, with a liberal supply of fresh vegetables, very soon notice a difference in their general appearance. Not only is an improvement wrought by a change such as that described, but an equally good result could be obtained by the substitution of fish for meat on one or two days in the week. The skin becomes clearer in color and finer in texture; it is neither rough to the touch nor does it feel doughy. If there are pimples, they disappear; the blood circulates freely, the skin perspires, and the breath has no unpleasant odour, a large amount of the waste matter in the system is thrown out by cutaneous depuration. The catarrhal conditions from which so many suffer are also removed, along with the causes which lead to them. The same is true of headaches; they are cured by eating correctly. About the only objection to the hygienic dietary is that if it were universally adopted the doctors would have but little to do. Each individual would be his own physician, and he would very soon learn that prevention is better than cure.—"Family Doctor."

Seemed Repentant.

A young man was sitting in a barber's shop looking at a magazine, when an old farmer with little knowledge or appreciation of literary people stepped up behind his chair and looked over his shoulder.

"Whose them?" he inquired, pointing to a group of portraits.

"Well-known authors and playwrights," was the reply.

"Humph!" ejaculated the farmer, contemptuously. "Jist writin' fellers, oh?" Then he caught sight of an author with a long, solemn face, and his eyes sparkled. "That's the one I like," he said, with decision, putting his finger on the writer's mournful countenance.

"Oh, yes; nearly everyone likes him," agreed the young man. "His humorous writings are——"

"Don't know nothin' 'bout his writin', but I like his face."

"Why so?"

"'Cause he's the only feller that looks like he was sorry for what he'd done."

In the Beginning.

A suffragist, just returned from a campaign in Scotland, states that at one meeting in the Highlands an argument was advanced to which she was unable to find an answer.

Speeches had been made to a large crowd. Questions had been replied to amid applause. Imbecile young men making remarks about minding babies and mending socks had been silenced.

Then, just as there was a temporary lull before the putting of the resolution, a great bucolic Scotch voice from the back of the crowd rasped slowly in with the inquiry, obviously the result of prolonged rumination:

"Wha made a mess o' Adam?"

We should all try to endure our own troubles with the same admirable fortitude that has helped us to endure those of our friends.

A little patience in teaching the horses to be gentle and obedient will often add pounds to their value.

POULTRY.

FARMERS AND THEIR FOWLS.

Farmers do not always shine as bright lights in the poultry world. This plain fact stares everyone in the face.

Among the various denizens of the farmyard the fowl receives the least consideration, and but for this failing the poultry work might be made quite as profitable, if not more profitable, than any of the other operations on the farm.

In the care and management of their poultry, farmers are generally erratic and slipshod, and to expect to find eggs at many farms in winter is more often than not hopeless.

It would be worth a farmer's while to begin by doing a little towards improving his stock of fowls. If this were done then more would follow without a doubt.

The results from one or two matters in which change had been made would stir him up to further efforts.

Here are a few brief suggestions in regard to improving the farmyard stock:—

1. Keep no old birds. After two seasons every hen should be disposed of.

2. Avoid having too large a stock. A smaller number of birds of better quality is far better.

3. When a bird is out of sorts take it away from the others, and if it is badly affected rather kill it than risk the spread of disease.

4. Use males of a pure breed with the ordinary hens. Buy from a good breeder.

5. Hatch pullets early in the spring, and clear out the young cockerels as soon as they are large enough to kill.

6. A fresh supply of pure water daily is absolutely necessary. The water should be kept in a shaded position.

Any farmer could, without the least trouble, carry out these few hints, and if this were done there would be no reason for regret.

QUALITIES NECESSARY IN POULTRY KEEPING.

For the complete equipment of a poultryman some strong and very good qualities are called for. One of these is thoroughness.

As to which is the most important essential of all, it would be rather difficult to specify this exactly.

Perhaps patience counts for most. Patience, at any rate, is highly important, and, given patience, thoroughness will most likely follow. There cannot be thoroughness without patience; there can be no two opinions about that. Poultry keeping depends for its very life and prosperity on regular attention being given to many little details.

And this being so, the importance of thoroughness will be obvious.

Little things, many of them apparently trifling, but still if neglected they tell seriously against success.

Vital interest and a genuine love for fowls is a sine qua non and for one to attempt to make a success of poultry keeping without it would be folly, as it would only result in failure.

Adaptability, too, counts for very much. Here are four essentials—thoroughness, patience, vital interest, adaptability. Equipped with these, there is hope for work being thoroughly well done.

No one could rise to a position of eminence in the poultry fancy without these qualities.

A great painter was once asked by what means he had gained such a great reputation among others in that school. And he replied: "Because I have neglected nothing"; and all who are to shine as lights in the poultry world must do the same.

RAPIDITY OF THOUGHT IN DREAMING.

A very remarkable circumstance, and an important point in analogy, is to be found in the extreme rapidity with which the mental operations are performed, or rather with which the material changes on which ideas depend are excited in the hemispherical ganglia. It would appear as if a whole series of acts, that would really occupy a long space of time, pass ideally through the mind in an instant. We have in dreams no true perception of the lapse of time—a strange property of mind—for it such be also its property when entered into the eternal disembodied state time will appear to us eternity. The relations of space as well as of time are also annihilated, so that while almost an eternity is compressed into a moment, infinite space is traversed more swiftly than by real thought. There are numerous illustrations of this principle on record. A gentleman dreamed that he had enlisted as a soldier, joined his regiment, deserted, was apprehended, carried back, condemned to be shot, and at last led out for execution. After the usual preparations, a gun was fired; he awoke with the report, and found that a noise in the next room had, at the same moment, produced the dream and awakened him. A friend of Dr. Abercrombie dreamed that he crossed the Atlantic, and spent a fortnight in America. In embarking on his return he fell into the sea, and, awakening in his fright, he found that he had not been asleep ten minutes.

What the Horse Thought.

The conversation turned on big feet, when one of the company said he believed his pal Smith would take some beating in that line.

"I was out walking with Smith one day," he said, "when he slipped down with the soles of his boots pointing to a grocer's window. The grocer rushed out to inquire who was putting the shutters up."

"That's pretty fair," said a soldier who was present, "but a fellow in our company beat it hollow. After a sharp fight with the enemy we were obliged to retreat, when, on looking back, we saw on of our men standing upright on the field. The fact was the poor fellow had got such feet that he never fell down when he was shot."

"Well," said a horse-dealer, who sat in the corner, "that's rather tall; but let me have a try. A fellow came down to our stables the other day in a hurry to hire a horse for a journey he was going. 'I'll have that one,' said he, pointing to a horse in the yard. 'Why, there isn't a man in the world can ride that animal,' I said. 'He'll work in a cart or plough, but no one can stay on his back.' 'I'll try him, any way,' said the stranger, as he sprang into the saddle. I expected to see him pitched off; but the horse looked round, saw the man's feet, and trotted quietly off. He thought he was between a pair of shafts."

Dry Rot in the Pulpit.

The "unkindest cut of all" among unintentional sayings capable of a satirical application was that of an old pew-opener in a southern county. She was in attendance on the rector, the churchwardens, and a city architect, poking the woodwork with his cane. "There's a great deal of dry rot in these pews, Mr. Rector."

Before the latter could reply, the old woman put in with:

"But law, sir, it ain't nothink to what there is in the pulpit."

Happy the man who finds a peculiar joy in undertaking a difficult and disagreeable task and in achieving it.

AGRICULTURE.

GOOD SEED NOT ALL.

Before any farmer can get the most out of his pure-bred stock, seed, or good implements, he must learn to appreciate them. The mere outlay of cash to purchase pure-bred cows, pigs, poultry, and other money-making farm stock will not increase the profits. The farmer must learn to give good seed better care than the inferior quality he has been using. One of the objects of the good seed and good stock gospel is the awakening of the farmer to a realisation that only part of the greater profits of these is in the seed and the stock itself. Half of it lies with the farmer himself. Good seed thrown on the ground in a slovenly manner is a waste of seed. It needs the hand of man to turn it into true value. Only part of good live stock is in the stock itself—the other part in the caretaker and feeder. The farmer who has grade live stock and does well with it is one who will make more from pure-bred animals. Methods of work must become more careful when good seed is used to increase the returns from the farmer's labor. It is the thinking, reading, studying farmer who gets to the front with both feet every time.

STOPPING SMALL LEAKS ON THE FARM.

It is the general inclination on the part of mankind to be looking for something great to happen or for some great opportunity to present itself whereby they may better their condition in life, either socially or financially. Often, for this reason, we usually do not make the most of existing conditions and thereby gain the desired end, and, by making the most of the smaller things, better prepare ourselves to grasp the greater opportunities when they do occur.

This is especially true of farmers who, in caring for the great or more pressing things on the farm, often neglect the little things which quite often marks the difference between profit or loss in our farming operations.

It is needless to say that all farmers should, after having tilled the soil and planted the grain, care for and harvest the crop if he intends to succeed financially, but it is the little things about the farm that are often overlooked, and which in the aggregate, if neglected, may spell failure to our farming operations.

Perhaps one of the most noticeable of small leaks on the farm is the neglect of keeping things in repair. There are the fences, for instance, a board becomes loose, and if not attended to the wind swaying it back and forth soon causes a post to break, and before we are aware of it soon causes extensive repairs to be made, whereas only a few minutes of time would have been required at first to repair it.

Then there are the buildings; they are perhaps allowed to stand for years without repainting or repairs being made in any way, and when the job is finally undertaken we find that it requires a large outlay of cash to properly repair them, while, had it been attended to when needed, the expense would have been comparatively insignificant, and they would then have been in a more presentable appearance.

Another leak on most farms that needs attention is the seeming disregard as to the disposition of the stable manure. Often no attention is paid to conserving the liquid manure. The loss from this source alone, if it could be accurately computed, would be an eye-opener to many farmers, and would perhaps be the means of bringing them to a realisation of the necessity of conserving not only the solid but also the liquid manure, thereby adding many pounds' worth of fertiliser to their farms annually, which would mean larger crops and greater profits. Remember it is the small things that count.

CULTIVATION THE BEST FFERTILISER.

One frequently hears the remark that concentrated fertilisers will supply all the necessary plant food required to maintain the fertility of the soil. To a certain extent this may be true; but tasks the Otago "Witness") is there not a danger of pinning too much faith on different applied aids of fertility and neglecting another most essantial one in the active cultivation of the ground? Farmers have been made familiar with the possibilities of electricity towards land fertilising, and nitro bacterine may in the future do as much for us in the successful growing of crops; but the practical and well-known aid of fertility should not be overlooked, which is the active cultivation of the soil. All tillers of the soil should remember that crops cannot be successfully grown by manure alone, and if there is anything really faulty in the actual working of the soil, fertilisers will not entirely make up the deficiency. In order to grow good crops, land must be clean and properly worked, and the idea often held that an extra outlay in fertilisers will make up for indifferent cultivation is certainly a wrong one. One often sees crops being put in on land that is far from clean and badly worked, and when the owners are questioned as to the subject they excuse themselves by saying that they have supplied an extra dressing of fertilisers to make up for the unfavorable conditions. Good cultivation of the soil is the best fertiliser, as all successful farmers know, and stinting labor and spending perhaps lavishly on fertilisers is not good farming and wrong in principle, because the most is not got out of the fertiliser if the cultivation of the land is faulty and the soil not well worked before the crop is sown.

IMPROVEMENT IN FARM LIFE.

Now is the time to live. By the word "live" we do not mean that sham called living, which is mere existence. Not at all! We mean that keen appreciation of all that is good and beautiful and ennobling, which depends on activity of thought in right directions, and that is manifested in improved conditions of daily life. Right living is inseparable from right thinking.

No one has such unhampered opportunity for right thinking and living as the farmer. And no one is becoming awake to this fact so much as the farmer himself. Removed from the artificialities of existence and in intimate daily touch with the natural as well as the necessary he may enjoy practically all the comforts of urban living without being forced to forego the characteristic pleasures and privileges of his calling.

Now is the time to enjoy all things richly. And royally the right thinking farmer is beginning to live. The ring of the telephone bell is becoming as familiar as the cackle of the hen; acetylene, electric and other improved methods of lighting are steadily replacing the spluttering, smoking, reeking lamps; every day farmers' wives, an increasing army, are coming to be drawers and carriers of water, because water systems have been installed in the homes; and every year a larger number of farm families laud the praises of sanitary methods of sewage disposal.

All this and very much more goes to show that the farmer is enjoying the fruits of right thinking. For who will deny that it is right to be happy and comfortable? We congratulate him on his progress in these directions. Countless farm houses have become farm homes through the adoption of better modes of living, and are setting an example for good that is ennobling farm life and manhood and womanhood.

WIT AND HUMOUR.

George: But you would learn to love me, Elsie.

Elsie: I do not think I could, George.

George: Ah! Just as I expected—much too old to learn.

Banks: I don't mind the influenza itself so much—it's the after-effects I'm afraid of.

Rivers: The after-effect is what ails me. I'm still dodging the doctor for twenty-five shillings.

Lancaster: Are you making as much fuss over your baby now as you were two months ago?

Forrester: Oh, no. The baby is making all the fuss now.

Mrs. Newed: Mamma says she does not think we will ever quarrel as she and papa do.

M

Cr. Harry—True; but the property should be securely fenced. Continuing, Cr. Harry said that he was disappointed with the work of the stone crusher and the cost of working it, notwithstanding that it was a much cheaper system than breaking metal by hand. It was evident that too much money had been spent in blocking out the streets. Unless they were going to get their streets made he did not know what they paid rates for. It was all very well to talk about putting their foot down, but where is the councillor who will oppose a work because it not provided for?

Cr. Mitchell said that if the £60 for park improvement was struck out they would turn the ground into a wilderness. Referring to the stone crusher, Cr. Mitchell said he had not the slightest hesitation in saying that the streets recently metalled would have been done cheaper and better by contract. Why, their surveyor would not think of passing similar work if done by a contractor, nor would he permit such stone to be used.

Cr. Robb said that he concurred in much that Cr. Plant had said. While there was no question as to the stability of the town, the increasing overdraft called for careful consideration. The question for them to consider was the best possible way to reduce it in the future. If they increased the rate one penny it only meant about £300 extra revenue, and if they increased it threepence they would only gain £900, which would be of very little value. In the future they would have to try and keep their expenditure within their receipts.

Cr. Bainbridge said in regard to the sewer metal the initial mistake was made in carting the stone on to vacant land instead of direct to the streets requiring to be constructed. As an instance of bad management Cr. Bainbridge said that he had seen two men, a pair of horses and a roller going over the metal, backwards and forwards, without either being [illegible]

[illegible] pleased to know that the streets had been metalled, and he for one was satisfied with the expenditure. It appeared to him that a great deal of necessary work had been done for the money even if it had exceeded the amount authorised.

Cr. Bastings said there had been a certain amount of destructive criticism, but no proposition of a constructive character had been made. He approved of the back rates being included in the receipts. While they might not prove too good as a liquid asset yet they could not be written off as bad debts. Their object should be to stem the present drift and if they did that their overdraft should not go beyond £5542 during the current year Whilst he regretted the position of their finances it would be next to an impossibility to reduce their overdraft in one year. The only way to do that would be to stop all works and no councillor would agree to that. The question of increasing the rate—already quite high enough—could not be entertained. In drawing up the estimates councillors' one object was to advance the town, and as far as he could see the work had been carefully and well done.

The motion for the adoption of the estimates was then put and carried.

THE ESTIMATES.

The total estimated receipts are £17,377 2s 5d, of which the following are the principal items:—Rate of 2s 3d in the £1, £10,484 8s 9d; arrears of rates, £926 11s 10d; tram rent, £1560; pan charge, £1000; private street arrears, £887 12s 4d; paving, £347 1s 10d; dog registration, £200; rent of hall, £180; building fees, £150.

Expenditure—Interest and sinking fund on loans, £3135; interest on overdraft, £180; metal, £1280; pan contract, £1000; salaries, &c., £1526 4s; wages (including an increase of 6d per day to laymen) £938; Infectious Diseases hospital, £250; Fire Board, £270; stone crusher and metalling (from last year), £884 4s 2d; balances on contracts from last financial year, £779 3s 4d; contributions towards purchase of parks, £180; Northcote park, £60; carriage, £1100; lighting, £760 10; paving and channel repairs, &c., £560; parks maintenance, £260; allotment to wards, new works, £600.

RIFLE CLUBS.

THE VITAL QUESTION OF RANGES.

WITHOUT THEM THE CLUBS MUST GO.

The organisation which Cr. Howe (president of Prestonshire) asked to meet the council in the president's room on Monday evening was the Rifle Club, and it furnished them with an opportunity of ventilating some of their grievances.

Cr. Crispe, in proposing the toast of "The Rifle Club," recalled the fact of the public meeting which had been held at Preston to advocate the establishment by the Common wealth Government of a subsidiary national rifle range and also reminded those present of the deputation to the Minister of Defence, who promised the matter his earnest consideration, but they had since heard nothing from him. It was high time the rifle club shook the Minister up for they had an ideal range in Preston which he could take over, which would be for the good of the Rifle Club and Preston generally.

Mr. W. B. Howe, in responding, said the club appreciated the honour of being thus recognised. As for Cr. Crispe's remarks he might say that the provision of a range was a vital question with them. If they did not get a range there would not be a rifle club much longer. He thought they should try and shake the powers that be up. It was unreasonable to expect men to travel 12 or 16 miles to put in a bit of practice. That was not his idea of encouraging national defence. They should be given better facilities.

Mr. Broadhurst, who also responded, remarked that the presidents of the shire was also captain of the Rifle Club and had for a long time taken an active interest in same, and as soon as he joined it it went forward by leaps and bounds. During his captaincy the club had spent as much as £200 in a year and given £40 in prizes. The roll of active shooters also went up considerably; but he was sorry to say that beyond the office-bearers and committee there were no active shooters at the present time. If they had a local range no doubt they would soon get back to their old position, but members would not go down to Port Melbourne to shoot.

Mr. T. J. Withrington said that they had been well received at the deputation, and the Government pretended to take a lot of interest in defence, but the matter had just been allowed to lapse. He thought the desire was to crush out rifle clubs. Under the new regulations it would be impossible for members of a rifle club to get a target either at Port Melbourne or Williamstown. He was glad to see that the rifle clubs altogether outclassed the military men at the recent shooting competitions.

Mr. F. Michel said that the military men had practically no shooting at all. He knew that because he belonged to the militia. Some members of his corps got practice through a private club, but other companies he knew practically took no interest in rifle-shooting at all. The trouble was about the ammunition. If they asked for it they were sat upon, and if they persisted they got shunted. Under these circumstances the military men were very pleased to see the rifle clubs come out and beat them.

Mr. C. Brown and Mr. J. Crofield also responded, the latter remarking that if they did not get a range the Preston Rifle Club was doomed.

The president (Cr. Howe), in responding to the toast of his health later, commented severely on the folly of any Government attempting to raise up an army which couldn't shoot. He urged that their member, Mr. Cook, be asked to rouse up the Minister and see what he is doing in the matter of a range at Preston, which would not only galvanise the local club into new life but all the clubs north of the Yarra.

The Good Samaritan Convent, Northcote, had the following successful candidates at the musical examinations of the Royal Academy and Royal College of Music:—Advanced grade, piano, honors, Jenny Weyman; pass, Josephine Kennelly. Intermediate grade, singing, honors, Vera Carew. Higher division, piano, Mabel Dynan. Lower division, Freda Munday, Nancy Byron, Adelaide Cokram, Hazel Hoarnes. Elementary division, singing, honors, Misses M. Doran, May Reilley, Maggie Chute; pass, Vera Donovan, Ada Ralph; piano, Katie Campbell, Agnes Mahoney. Primary division, piano, honors, May Reilly, Gladys Stoneham.

Wanted to Sell.

OLD-ESTABLISHED Fish Round, Pony Cart, Harness, cheap. F. Alway, 38 Daly street, Northcote.

CRICKET.

NORTHCOTE V. COLLINGWOOD.

A DRAW.

Northcote continued their match against Collingwood at the Northcote park. When stumps were drawn the previous Saturday Collingwood had compiled 115 and Northcote had lost 7 wickets for 73. Richardson batted well for 25, including five 4's, and Northcote were even with their opponents when they had two wickets to fall. Parratt was run out and Plant, the last man in, got his leg in front of his wicket and was given out l.b.w., so the the end was both close and exciting. Collingwood did much better in second innings, scoring 237, of which Scannel made 126. At once stage of the innings they had 190 on the board for the loss of 2 wickets. Plant 3 for 47 and Spicer 7 for 69 secured the wickets. Scores—

COLLINGWOOD.

First innings	...	115
Second innings	...	237
NORTHCOTE—First innings.		
Brown, b Knell	...	18
Billings, b Pitcher	...	6
Yeomans, c McSyerrin b Knell	...	11
Fontaine, c Birrell b Knell	...	8
Bailey, c Ryder b Pitcher	...	13
Spicer, b Knell	...	6
Mills, b Ryder	...	3
Richardson, b Knell	...	25
Parratt, run out	...	13
Rowe, not out	...	10
Plant, l.b.w., b Ryder	...	0
Sundries	...	2
Total	...	115

The second elevens concluded their match last Saturday at Victoria Park, Northcote winning by an innings and 83 runs. On the first day Collingwood made 52, and Northcote responded with 140 for the loss of 5 wickets. The not out men, Studley (33) and Coyle (6), increased their scores to 61 and 27 respectively, made by sound batting. With the total at 211 for 9 wickets Northcote declared their innings closed and sent Collingwood in again, and succeeded in getting them all out for 76. Of this total E. Brown made 32, McMillan 14 and Grigg 14 not out. Bolton and S. Yeomans were responsible for Collingwood's downfall in the second innings. Both bowled in fine form, and secured good averages, taking 5 wickets for 14 runs and 3 for 11 respectively. G. Fox, who secured 1 for 9, also bowled well.

PRESTON V. YARRAVILLE.

This match was continued last Saturday at Yarraville, the scores then standing—Yarraville, 105; Preston, 3 for 21. The not out men, Robinson and Fyfe, resumed batting, the latter being first to go for 15. Lyons followed and gave a masterly exhibition of batting, his off drives being perfect. Unfortunately Robinson became impatient and fell to a catch well out for a good defensive innings of 15. Smith joined Lyons and the pair brought the score from 44 to 73, when the former was caught for 16, made in his best style. Mehegan 1, Dickens 1, Watson 2 not out. Walters, after making 4, was given out for handling the ball. The bowler appealed for l.b.w., and the decision being against him Walters picked up the ball and threw it back. The crowd then sang out and Bonner Murray appealed. Of course the umpire had to give him out, but the captain (Ned Stephens) gave Murray a bit of his mind for being so unsportsmanlike. The innings closed for 89. Lyons made 23, and now that he has found a few runs much may be expected, as he is a batsman of the dashing order. With 16 runs to the good Yarraville went in for the second innings, but Dickens and Smith, bowling unchanged, dismissed them for 34 runs. Dickens, 4 for 16, bowled exceptionally well, and Smith, 4 for 17, did likewise. Preston require 51 runs to win, so are in hopes of pulling the match off.

Having the bye in the V.C.A. competitions the Northcote first eleven will take a seaside trip to Mordialloc to play the local club. Players and others meet at Flinders street station to leave by the 1.13 train.

Northcote second eleven meet Clifton Socials (juniors) at Northcote park to-day, play commencing 2.30 sharp.

Next Saturday a club match will take place at the park. Teams will be picked from players available, who are requested to hand in their names if willing to take part in the game.

A re-union of members of Northcote C.C. will be held at the town hall on Thursday evening, 9th inst., when all members and friends will be cordially welcomed.

Preston Amateurs v. Erratics, played at Preston park. Erratics, 52 (Hedigan 5 for 15, Kerr 3 for 11); Amateurs, 110 (Rankine 37, Weller 26, Greenhalgh 21). Amateurs won by 58 runs.

The Amateurs journey to Narre Warren to-day to play the local team. Train leaves Flinders street at 1.30 sharp. Players meet under dome of station at 1.15.

Preston Methodists v. East Brunswick. Scores—East, 52 (Punch 5 for 25, Barker 5 for 25); Preston, 3 for 137 (Stephenson 48, Barker 60 not out). The match will be concluded to-day.

Preston Presbyterians (132) v. Burnley (55 and 48). Bartley 5 for 22 and Carson 5 for 12 did the bowling for the former. Preston play South Yarra to-day on the latter's ground.

Pender's Star played Cromwell's Star last Saturday. Cromwell's 35 and 59 (Baguley 5 for 21, Carnell 5 for 8, Strawbridge 4 for 19, Ough 4 for 21); Pender's, 95 and 1 for 21 (Phake 29, Baguley 26 and 16 not out, Carnell 12).

Everleigh, 124 (Doran 27, Mehegan 26 not out, Horan 23, Brittain 20) defeated Prince of Wales' Park B, 45 and 26 (Doran 9 for 23, and Weal 10 for 29) by an innings and 53 runs.

Northcote Church of Christ v. North Fitzroy. Scores—Fitzroy, 205 and 182; Northcote 88 and 3 for 44 (Austin 21, Allen 16, LePage 16).

Northcote I.O.R. play Kensington Juniors at Northcote to day.

TENNIS.

Fitzroy v. Thornbury, played at Fitzroy on Saturday last.

Wilson and Perrottet v Gillies and Chirgwin, 6—3, 3—6.

Gillies and Chirgwin v. Richards and Symington, 6—4, 5—6.

Wilson and Perrottet v. Chirgwin and Hammett, 6—4, 5—6.

Gillies and Hammett v. Richards and Symington, 6—3, 5—6.

Total games—Thornbury 41, Fitzroy 39.

Property Sales.

This day at half-past 2 McGeorge Bros. Bros. hold an important auction sale of Preston properties, as advertised elsewhere.

Stott and Bastings, auctioneer, report the following sales during the past week:—Allotment, Clarendon street, 35 x 115; allotment, Clarendon street, 40 x 115; two allotments, Arthurton road, McCracken's estate, 80 x 115; villa, Henderson street; allotment, Mansfield street, 70 x 115; business site, High street, next *Leader* office, 45 x 150; business site, High street, 30 x 200. Total sales, £1642 15s. Shops will shortly be erected on the High street frontages.

Stott and Bastings will offer by auction this day 54 allotments in Broomfield estate, Fairfield, close station.

Stott and Bastings sell by auction on Dec. 8th valuable building allotment, 123 feet frontage to Arthurton road. See advt.

Stott and Bastings will offer by auction on 11th December 31 allotments in Bay View estate, Northcote. Plans at office.

Stott and Bastings, in conjunction with A. Robertson, will offer by auction on December 18th d.f.w.b. villa, 6 rooms, Milton street, Preston; also allotment, Gower-st.

Stott and Bastings will offer by auction on December 18th d.f.w.b. villa, 7 rooms, on land 66 x 134ft. 6in., Ballantyne street, Northcote.

BOWLS.

North Fitzroy B v. Northcote, at North Fitzroy.

NORTH FITZROY B, 109.

1. Kiernan, Bowman, McWilliams, Martin 35
2. Ford, Harrison, Irving, McCarthy ... 25
3. Foreman, Griffen, Bradshaw, Terdich 30
4. Baptie, Dally, Farzer, Beveridge ... 19

NORTHCOTE 77.

1. Saunders, Brown, Duncan Mitchell 12
2. Treleaven, Marsden, Taylor, Dudman 14
3. McIntosh, Bailey, Rendle, Bennell... 24
4. Allan, Hayes, Cox, Plant ... 27

Studley Park v. Preston, at Preston.

STUDLEY PARK, 103.

1. F. Derham, Gray, Waters, Laing ... 29
2. Cooper, E. Derham, Andrew, Ferguson 21
3. McCrae, Roberts, Kaines, Serle ... 26
4. Wishart, Archer, Bridges, Cornish... 27

PRESTON, 90.

1. C. Crispe, Robertson, Stanlake, Crispe 20
2. Bartley, C. Wilkinson, A. Winkinson, Pike 26
3. Box, Howe, Strahle, Broadhurst ... 20
4. DuBourg, Arch. Wilkinson, Paterson Walker 24

Thornbury v. Richmond Union, at Thornbury.

RICHMOND UNION, 107.

1. Freeman, Collopy, G. Bleasel, W. Bleasel... 33
2. Smith, Jackson, Loughnan, Kelly ... 23
3. Cuddon, Brown, Dr. MacGillicuddy Collins... 32
4. Hayward, Stach, Selleck, Hansen .. 19

THORNBURY, 80.

1. Cogle, Smith, Brown, Doran ... 19
2. Ingham, Workman, Stephens, Whalley 21
3. Harris, Boyd, King, Dickason ... 12
4. Meakin, Harry, Johnston, Gilpin ... 28

Thornbury bowlers play a three-rink match against City, a two-rink match against Northcote, and a three-rink match against City all on Thornbury green to-day.

On Tuesday, Dec. 7th, Thornbury play a four-rink match against Princes Park, and on Thursday, 9th, a four-rink match against East Melb.

On Monday, Dec. 6th, the first section of the Thornbury night rink tournament will be played, and on Wednesday, December 8th, the second section.

SOCIETIES.

The Northcote branch A.N.A. held their fortnightly meeting on Thursday, there being a fair attendance. The new president, Mr. McKay, occupied the chair. Two new members were elected and three proposals received. There was only a small amount of business, which gave all the more time for the item on the syllabus—a lecture by Dr. Sturdee on "Ambulance work, with charts." The lecturer handled his subject in a most able and instructive manner that was greatly appreciated. The item for the next meeting is "Impromtu speaking."

Preston Citizens' Progress Association.

The above met on Wednesday last, Mr. McPherson in the chair, with a good attendance of members. The secretary reported that he had written to the council re the extra Sunday train, and the council were writing to the Railway Department to get them to extend the train to Reservoir. The resignation of Mr. Joans, who has left the district, was accepted with regret, as he had done excellent work for the association. Messrs McDonald and Willis and the president reported having attended meeting of the Merri Creek Association re opening St. George's road, and it was decided to form a deputation and wait on Mr. Carre Riddell. Messrs McDonald, White, Long and Ward reported that they attended at the shire president's room, where they were hospitably entertained and the best of feeling extended to them. It was decided to write and thank Cr. Howe for his kind invitation and good fellowship extended to the association. Mr. White referred to the number of wandering cattle in the west riding. Messrs Stewart, Olney and others stated that in Murray road, Elizabeth street and Spring street it was dangerous to drive or walk at night on account of the cattle lying about there. It was decided to write to the council re same. It was also resolved, re houses in Showers street, that a letter be sent thanking the council for taking the matter in hand. A complaint was made that refuse from the slaughter yards was being carted through Preston uncovered, and the secretary was instructed to bring it under the notice of the council. Mr. Long brought up the subject of Northcote's complaint to Bullen's drain, and a general discussion arose. Mr. Ward moved that the committee consider ways and means of planting trees on the roads near railway stations to beautify the district. Mr H. Olney was appointed a member of committee.

Northcote Egg-Laying Competition.

SEVEN MONTHS ENDING NOV. 30TH.

The leading pen has laid 822 eggs. Value of eggs, £3 12s 3d; cost of food, £1 2s 3d; profit on six pullets for 7 months, £2 10s.

The 156 pullets have laid for seven months ending November 30th 16,590 eggs. Value, £69 16s 5d; cost of food, £29 2s 4d; profit, £40 14s 1d.

Twice during the competition a pen has laid 40 out of a possible 42 eggs for a week.

No doubt about it, fowls of a good laying strain will pay.

Ernest Lees,

Auctioneer,

Estate, & Financial Agent,

HAS OPENED A

Branch of his Business

AT

Jenkin's News Agency,

No. 106 HIGH ST.,

NORTHCOTE SOUTH.

AUCTION SALE

of

31 Allotments 31

BAYVIEW ESTATE

SATURDAY, 11th DECEMBER, 3 o'clock on ground.

Buy a Block in Beautiful Bayview.

Streets Formed, Channelled, and Metalled.

Frontages: MAJOR, MEMBREY, CLARKE, and MASON Sts.

TERMS: One-fifth Deposit; balance quarterly up to 2 years; 5 per cent. interest.

Plans may be had from Auctioneer,

Stott & Bastings,

207 High Street, Northcote,

Tel. 1976.

Auction Sale on Land, Saturday, 11th December, at 3 o'clock.

"A LIFE ON THE OCEAN WAVE."

By W. W. ROCK.

[No. 1.]

Sea Smooth,
Temp., about 120 in the shade,
Lat. 8 deg. S. Lon. 92 deg. E.

We must be in the tropics. I know this because the officers have changed their navy blue uniform for cool-looking suits of white duck; the ladies appear in light and airy garments; the electric fans are moving night and day, and passengers lie listlessly about the deck. We must be in the tropics, for energy is at a premium, and ices have made their appearance on the menu. Nobody cares for games, and even the deck-walking individual has sunk back into a seat bathed in perspiration. The officers say there is a monsoon ahead of us. We all hope it will not come on soon. (Read quickly and pass on).

I have almost forgotten what land is like. On an average we have been gaining half an hour daily on the time of the solar system (whatever that may be). We are now ten days from Melbourne, so that even at the moment when I write (1 p.m.) some of my Northcote friends will be reluctantly thinking of getting up and making their customary dash for the morning train. Warm! Phew! I think of home and Northcote, and pause to wipe away a—bead of perspiration.

So the days go by, each one a little warmer than the last, and we are nearing the Line. The atmosphere is delightfully drowsy. My friend, the stout Englishman, spends the hours of daylight in a long siesta, punctuated only by the gong for meals. I have become resigned to the life. It is altogether charming. It would appear as if this state of things had been going on for years. Our little world—sea, sky and ship—has merged into a delicious day dream, and I wonder when I am going to wake up. Meanwhile, in the midst of the general inertia, the ship's cat, unmolested, stalks the deck seeking that which it may devour.

Torrid Zone, 20/10/09.

Have come to the conclusion that the Equator is a myth. We crossed it at noon yesterday. Nothing special happened, but one individual asserted positively that he felt a bump as we passed over the Line. It transpired that, at the time, he was running up the companion-way, when he slipped and fell. But although Jimmy and I stood at the rail for half-an-hour, the perspiration streaming off us, *we* never saw any Line. (Jimmy is the only boy passenger. He has not yet completed his education). King Neptune failed to put in an appearance. Rumour hath it that he was suffering from hydrokinetics, a common complaint in these parts.

Now the weather is hot in real earnest, hot as a blast from a furnace—enervating, oppressive heat that seems to take the life out of everybody. We are looking forward to a day up in the cool hills of Ceylon, where the cinnamon scented breezes blow.

"From the East came the breath of its odours,
And its heat melted soft in the haze."

The notice board says we should arrive at Colombo early to-morrow morning. Hail Colombo!

ADVERTISING V. "BUSTING."

Two men did business side by side;
For getting trade the first relied
On advertising far and wide,
The while the second trusted
To other methods to obtain
The golden prize he sought to gain,
Upon the first the dollars rain—
The other merchant busted.

Announcements

FITZROY MUNICIPAL BATHS. FITZROY MUNICIPAL BATHS. Junction of Queen's Parade and Alexandra Parade, close to Brunswick Street and Smith Street Trams.

OPEN DAILY from 6 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. Sundays, 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.

MAGNIFICENT SWIMMING BATHS. Men's Basin, 175ft. x 80ft., depth 2ft. 6in. to 7ft. 6in., is the largest in Victoria. Will accommodate 1000 bathers and 2000 spectators. Fitted with 3 Spring Boards, Diving Stage, Water Slide, Punching Ball, &c., &c. Women's Basin, 70ft. x 30ft., depth 2ft. 6in. to 6ft. 6in. Fitted with Spring Board, Diving Stage, Mirrors, Dressing Boxes, &c. Charges for Admission:—Adults 3d, Juniors 2d and 1d. Packets of 12 tickets:—Adults 2/6, Juniors 1/6. Monthly tickets 5/. (Concessions are made to members of recognised Swimming Clubs).

SLIPPER BATES with Hot and Cold Water and Showers, fitted up with every convenience, 15 for Males and 5 for Females, are READY AT ALL HOURS. Males—1st class 9d, 2nd class 6d. Females—1st class 6d

A. BATSON, Town Clerk.

FOR CATCHY & UP-TO-DATE **PRINTING** SEND YOUR ORDERS TO THE **Leader Office,** NORTHCOTE.

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

Amusements.

THE TALK OF THE TOWN.

The ALL BIOSCOPE CONCERTS ALL-BIOSCOPE CONCERTS at the NORTHCOTE PARK EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT.

Entirely New Subjects To-Night—Bright, Clear, and Steady.

Unquestionably the Best Suburban All-Picture Show.

Adults, 3d. Children, 1d.

G. POCKNALL, Hon. Sec. N.S.R. Assn.

PRESTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

GRAND GARDEN FETE at "Eastwood," near Murray station, to be opened TO-DAY at 3 p.m. by President Howe. Punch & Judy. Also at 7.30. Illuminations. Orchestral Band. Admission 6d, children 3d.

HOLY TRINITY, THORNBURY.

A CARNIVAL ON THE LAWN.

GRAND GARDEN FETE will be held at "LATONA," SHAFTESBURY PARADE, (by kind permission of Mrs. Bradley), on SATURDAY NEXT, DECEMBER 11. Afternoon at 3. Evening at 7.30. Splendid Programmes by well known Artists

Every Child Receives a Christmas Box.

ADMISSION SIXPENCE.

GRAND CONCERT, Northcote Town Hall, Tuesday, 14th December, in aid of Holy Trinity Tennis Club, Thornbury. Excellent Programme. First-class Artists. Amphion Orchestra. Humorous Sketches, &c. Admission 1/.

F. A. HACKETT, Hon. Sec.

SOUTH Preston Methodist Church.—GRAND XMAS FAIR and SALE of GIFTS will be held in the Bradford Hall, 15th and 16th December, in aid of Church Repair Fund. To be opened at 3 p.m. by Captain Howe, President of the Shire. Admission 6d, children 3d. Rev. L. S. Mackingall, Chairman.

ARCH WILKINSON, Hon. Sec.

CROXTON RECREATION GROUND.

Monday Evening Next, Grand Concert. Special engagement of Godfrey & Dawson, the Premier Songsters and Patter Team. Saturday Evening, Dec. 11th, Song and Dance Competition, under 16. Entry free.

H. W. BALHARRY, Promoter.

Auction Notices.

AUCTION SALES.
STOTT AND BASTINGS.
THIS DAY.
Starting 3 o'clock.

BROOMFIELD ESTATE, HEIDELBERG RD., FAIRFIELD.
54 ALLOTMENTS 54 ALLOTMENTS
Frontages Heidelberg Rd. Broomfield Avenue
Two minutes Fairfield Station.

WEDNESDAY, 8th DECEMBER.
At 3 o'clock on ground.

ARTHURTON RD. and ELM STREET, NORTHCOTE.
VALUABLE BUILDING ALLOTMENT, 123 feet frontage to Arthurton Road by splendid depth of 313 feet.
Title, Certificate. Terms at Sale.

SATURDAY, 18th DECEMBER.
At 3.45 o'clock at the Property.
"Wilcannia," 12 Ballantyne Street, UPPER NORTHCOTE (Thornbury.)
D.F.W.B. VILLA, containing 7 fine rooms, erected on land 66ft. frontage to Ballantyne st. by depth of 134ft. 6in.
Cards to view from STOTT & BASTINGS, 207 High Street, Northcote, Preston, and Fairfield. Tel. 1976.

THIS DAY.
At half-past two o'clock,
At the
SHIRE HALL, PRESTON,
IMPORTANT AUCTION SALE of PRESTON PROPERTIES.

BRICK VILLA RESIDENCES (with 4 to 6 acres),
MODERN W.B. VILLAS, and about 40 VACANT ALLOTMENTS, including the whole of the remaining Blocks in the SHEFFIELD ESTATE.
Full particulars, see this day's "Age" and "Argus." Catalogues from McGEORGE BROS., Auctioneer, Preston and Moreland.

SATURDAY, 18th DECEMBER.
At 3 o'clock, on the premises.
No. 16 MILTON STREET PRESTON SOUTH.
D.F.W.B. HOUSE, containing 6 rooms, on land 82 x 103.
Street and right-of way made.
Also, to be offered at Milton Street, ALLOTMENT, situate Gower Street, Preston. High position, close Shire Hall, between Plenty Road and High Street.
Title, Certificate. Terms at Sale.
Further particulars from Auctioneer, STOTT & BASTINGS, Northcote, Preston and Fairfield, Tel. 1976, who will sell as above; in conjunction with A. ROBERTSON, Estate Agent, Preston, Tel. 58 Brunswick.

Houses and Land For Sale.

HILLSIDE Estate, Preston. Marvellous value. Don't delay. 40ft. blocks from 1/6 weekly. No deposit. No interest. Full particulars, A. Robertson, corner High and Bell streets, Preston.

McGEORGE BROS., AUCTIONEER, Subdivisional Land Salesmen, Insurance Experts, and Rent Collectors, 323 HIGH STREET, PRESTON (Murray station), AUCTION ROOMS, Sydney Road, corner The Grove, MORELAND.

PRESTON.
BETTER THAN BUILDING SOCIETIES. £50 deposit and 13/6 week, including interest.
NEW QUEEN ANNE VILLA, 5 rooms, latest finish, land 40 x 165, at station. Highest Position. Free Railway Pass. This Villa is let at 13/6 per week. Cards to view from McGEORGE BROS., Local Auctioneer.

PRESTON.
GENTLEMAN'S HOME, 11 acres of Land, Subdivided and beautifully laid out in grass paddocks, orchard, flower and vegetable garden. The Villa is a most complete structure of brick, Queen Anne design, 8 rooms, hollow walls, with every possible comfort, and in perfect order, with stabling and outbuildings of every requirement. Convenient distance to station and enjoying an uninterrupted view of the country in every direction. Order of inspection at the offices of the Auctioneer, McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.
£50 Deposit and 25/ week will buy a SUPERIOR HOME, 7 rooms and usual conveniences, about 1½ acres of land.
Fruit trees, shrubbery, usual outbuildings. Suitable for retired people or City business men.
Early inspection invited.
McGEORGE BROS., Valuers.

PRESTON.—Large selection Brick and W.B. Cottages, all parts of district. Reasonable rent terms arranged. Land buyers, consult us. Plans and all information gratis. McGeorge Bros., Auctioneer.

PRESTON.—New Villa, 5 rooms, convenience, designed for comfort, nice high position, land 40 x 120, £275. Easy rent terms. McGeorge Bros., local.

PRESTON.—Must sell. Sacrifice. New Queen Anne villa, 5 large rooms, poultry houses, land 57 x 143, delightful position, £335. Terms. McGeorge Bros., Auctioneer, Murray station.

GOOD NEWS! GOOD NEWS!

H. ADAMS,

BUTCHER,

322 High Street, Northcote

(Late W. H. TACEY).

The Cheapest First-Class Butcher in Northcote.

Call and Inspect our Goods and be Convinced.

H.A. can supply the Best Quality at prices never heard of before in Northcote.

The Workingman must have Nourishing Food. Do not be misled.

LADIES! Do you want strong, robust children? Avoid poor meat and buy the best.

Our Sausages are a breakfast treat.

TRY THEM.

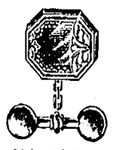
Telephone 114, Brunswick.

Xmas & New Year Presents

9ct., 8/6

Plain, Carb, and Fancy, from 25/-

Brooches, 9 ct., from 5/-



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Compare My Prices Before Purchasing Elsewhere.

WM. WALKER,

92 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE STH.

REPAIRS A SPECIALITY.

Sinclair's Meat Fair now on!
Sinclair's Meat Fair now on!
Sinclair's Meat Fair now on!

Just have One Look at these Prices:—

6lbs. of Prime Chops for
6lbs. of Prime Steak for
6lbs of our Famed Sausages **1/-**

Lamb! Lamb! Lamb!

Sides of Lamb from 2/6

Sides of Mutton from 2d lb! Why Pay More?

Corn Beef, 14/ per 100 lbs. This tells its own tale.

N.B.—J.A.S. is not running his establishment in any assumed name. We are not afraid to trade in our own name. We have no Market Rubbish in our establishment.

Sausages made while you wait at

SINCLAIR'S,

The People's Butcher,

The Man that pays twenty shillings in the £,

HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.

MISS I. THOMPSON, St. George's Rd., Northcote (corner Morley Street), FRUIT, CONFECTIONERY, and FANCY GOODS. Fresh Fruits direct from our own orchard at Ardmona.

MISS THOMPSON (same address), DRESSMAKER.

Lost and Found.

LOST.—Gold Bangle, Pearl Crescent with Sapphires, between Bazaar Methodist School and Westbourne Grove. Keepsake. Reward. Wedgwood, Northcote.

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

THE BUYER'S OPPORTUNITY!

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—GREAT—

BARGAIN CIRCULAR

circulated with to-day's issue.

ALL CLASSES OF GOODS AT

TEMPTING PRICES.

COUPONS WITH EVERY PURCHASE.

THIS IS BARGAIN DAY!

and every day till Christmas.

Wanted

CLEAN, willing Girl for housework, no cooking; reference required. No. 15 Flinders street, Northcote.

DRESSMAKER, competent, take charge room, at once. Miss Crook, 379 High street, Preston.

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R. J. WHALLEY, Hon. Sec.

The Northcote Jewellers.

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Large assortment of Watches, Clocks, Jewellery & Electroplate always on hand. Prices moderate.

Repairs Done on Premises at Shortest Notice. Workmanship Guaranteed.

HOLIDAY HATS AT

BEST & CO.'S

AT LESS THAN HALF PRICES.

We can do this because we have just bought two large stocks of Straw Hats—a manufacturer's and an Importer's—at much below cost prices, all

This Season's Goods!

Ladies' Hats from **6d.** Do., at 1/-, 1/6, and 1/11, the latest shapes at much less than **half City prices.**

A big job line of New Millinery Flowers from 6d spray.

Girls' Hats, a large stack from **6d.** An unbreakable line, feather weight, sold in the City at 2/3 and 2/6, **our price 1/-.**

In **Children's,** the variety is equally good and most prices are at about **half rates.**

Boaters from 6d to 4/11.

Ten dozen Real **Brazilian** Straw Hats, in Youths' and Men's sizes, at **2/6.** The City price for this line is 5/11. Note—Brazilian Straws are good washers.

For your Xmas Costume call early and see Miss Harley, in our building.

BEST & CO.,

DRAPERS & MERCERS,

HIGH ST., UPPER NORTHCOTE.

PRESTON SHIRE COUNCIL.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29.

Crs. Howe (president), Paterson, Warr, Stanlake, Crispe, Robertson, and Wilkinson.

GILBERT ROAD.

W. H. Thompson and R. Staples wrote asking to have the road in front of their properties, Gilbert road, cut down. The channels have been done over 12 months and the road is dangerous to traffic.

Cr. Robertson, who said this complaint was quite justified, moved that the matter be considered with the estimates.

Cr. Crispe seconded.—Carried.

CASE OF DIPHTHERIA.

The Infectious Diseases Hospital wrote intimating that James Sparton, Albert street, had been admitted suffering from diphtheria. —Received.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

The Infectious Diseases Hospital authorities wrote approving of this council joining in the management of the institution on payment of proportion of capital cost, &c., and patients could be sent after 1st January, the same as by the other contributory municipalities, but the matter of representation would have to stand in abeyance till the new scheme was completed.—Received.

THE 7.45 P.M. TRAIN.

The Railway Department wrote again declining to put back the present 7.45 p.m. train from the City to 7.30, as the 7.45 train was a suitable train for bay excursionists to catch.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES UNION.

The Weights and Measures Union wrote stating the expenses during 1909 had been £60, of which this council's share would be £2 5s.—Referred to the finance committee on the motion of Cr. Crispe and Robertson.

OPENING OF ST. GEORGE'S ROAD.

J. A. Foley, hon. sec. St. George's Road Improvement Association, wrote asking if there had been any negotiations with the owners of the land north of Dundas street, with a view to acquiring same, in order to open St. George's road through to Preston.

It was decided—on the motion of Cr. Crispe—to again approach J. C. Hutton with a view of getting the land between Dundas street and Oakover road on the west side of the pipe track, the association to be informed as to what the council is doing.—Carried.

USE OF HALL.

Sister Mary Victor (R.C. School) wrote asking for the hall for rehearsals of their annual entertainment on Friday 10th, from 1.30 to 4 p.m.; Monday 13, 1.30 to 4 p.m.; and Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th.—Granted, on the motion of Crs. Crispe and Paterson.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

Crs. Robertson (chairman) submitted the report, recommending:—

1. That accounts amounting to £123 10s 11d be passed for payment.—Adopted.

2 Letter from A. Strongman in reference to taking over surplus metal.—That the surplus metal be taken over, viz., 28 cubic yards at 6s 3d on Epping road and 33 cubic yards at 7s 9d on Plenty road —Adopted.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Cr. Stanlake (chairman) submitted the report, recommending—

1. That accounts amounting to £492 15s (including sinking fund loan No. 1, £200, and interest for half year on loan No. 1 £250) be passed for payment.—Adopted.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

Cr. Paterson submitted the report, recommending—

1. Letter from I. Barrow in reference to Special Improvement Charge No. 2.—That Mr. Barrow be informed that this council cannot accede to his proposition, and that payment must be made in full on the date set forth in notice, or extended terms accepted.—Adopted.

2. Inspector's report re noxious weeds.—That the necessary notices be printed, and the inspector take steps for the eradication of thistles, &c.—Adopted.

3. That the account due to the Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital be paid.—Adopted.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The treasurer reported that the Dr. balance at date was £266 2s 5d.

ENGINEER'S REPORT.

1. Visited Merri Creek and found there were no places in the creek on which the shire boundary abutted where kerosene could be applied with a view of preventing the mosquito pest. He would like instructions in the matter.—Referred to the committee of the whole, on the motion of Crs. Crispe and Stanlake.

2. Have the plans, etc., for the construction of the right-of-way at the rear of Albert street completed and submit same for consideration.—Referred to committee of the whole.

3. The total estimated cost of special improvement charge is £3014 0s 5d, and amount already paid is £664 18s 9d, leaving a balance of £2349 1s 8d.—Referred to finance committee.

ORDINARY BUSINESS.

Cr. Warr said the lane north of Gower st in the central riding was in a very insanitary state. He moved that the engineer and inspector report to the works committee.—Carried.

Cr. Paterson moved that the engineer attend to the footpath in Raglan street, south side, in front of the Builders' terrace. The pitchers at the end of the right of way also needed attention.

Cr. Wilkinson asked that the engineer attend to the pathway in Tyler street.

Cr. Stanlake moved that the engineer arrange for calling tenders for 1000 yards of maintenance metal. He considered this would be an opportune time to get cheap metal.

Cr. Paterson seconded the motion, which was carried.

Cr. Robertson asked if the engineer could reduce the "hump" in Oakover road.

The engineer said the work was not finished yet.

Cr. Wilkinson moved that the matter of proclaiming other noxious weeds in the shire be referred to the committee of the whole. —Carried.

Having learned from the secretary that no reply had been received from the Central Board of Health as to what was being done re branding at ham and bacon curing factories, Cr. Robertson moved that an answer be asked for.

Cr. Crispe seconded the motion, which was carried.

Cr. Warr gave notice of motion with a view of altering the floor space to 500 square feet in a house under 4 rooms, 600 feet at least in a house over 4 rooms.

NORTHCOTE POLICE COURT.

MONDAY, NOV. 29.

[Before Messrs Tharratt (chairman) Brown, Redmond and McIntosh).

MAINTENANCE.

Joachin Silva was proceeded against for the maintenance of his three children.

Mr. Dawson, for defendant, said they were prepared to provide a home within two hours, or pay for the maintenance of the children in a convent; or if either of these courses were not agreeable Silva would provide a home and take the children himself.

Mr. Candy said as regards a home there was no furniture in it for a start and there was no proof that any rent had been paid. The mother had been suffering from tuberculosis brought on by the husband's neglect, but she was out of the hospital now and was earning a living for herself and the children. A convent might be all right, but there was no one who could care for children like their mother. She could look after the children at her brother's house. The brother was making a sacrifice to have them there. He (Mr Candy) would ask the Bench to make a small order of 7/6 a week.

Mr. Dawson—The husband does not want the children to catch the consumption from the mother.

Silva said he was earning 25s a week as a cook and had done his best to keep his wife and children during the past 8 years. He would give his wife 15s a week if she would leave his brother-in-law, who had threatened to kill him and been the whole cause of their disagreement. He had a home with furniture in it to receive his wife and family.

To Mr. Candy.—My husband has never properly supported me. I have never been sick since I came out of the hospital. I don't want the children to go into a convent. I would rather keep them and work for them myself. I could never live with my husband again.

Mrs Blaskett having given evidence that the children were living under comfortable conditions the Bench made an order for 7/6 a week.

SCHOOL CASES.

Thomas Kidd was fined for not sending his children to school the required number of days (two cases, 2/6 each).

WIFE DESERTION.

The case of William Mortimer Lancaster, who had been brought from N.S.W. on a charge of deserting his wife, was adjourned for one week on the application of Mr Lonie.

UNSTAMPED RECEIPT.

The Solicitor-General proceeded against Henry Newman for not stamping 3 receipts for £3, £4, and £7 19s given to Constable Denham.

The evidence disclosed that accused was doing a plastering job for Constable Denham, the price fixed for same being £18, and the constable made three progress payments.

Constable Denham stated that on Newman giving him the receipts without stamps he drew his attention to the fact that they were illegal, whereupon he promised to bring a stamp and give a proper receipt. On each of the three payments witness reminded defendant of his omission to bring the stamps, and he said "Oh! I will give you a stamped receipt when the job is finished."

Defendant—Didn't you say it doesn't matter about a stamp till the job is finished?

Witness—No, but you suggested that.

Have you paid me up for the work I did? Witness—Yes.

Newman—I ask the Bench to take notice of that. If it was illegal why did you not demand a stamp? Isn't it your duty to prevent crime rather than encourage it?

Witness—You promised to bring a stamp. The accused made the following statement on oath:—Constable Denham himself wrote out the first receipt, which I signed. I said "I have no stamp." He said, "The stamp will do on the final payment." That is all that passed about a stamp. The row commenced when I delayed on the job. The last fortnight I worked I got no money whatever. I will take the risk of saying that the practice I always follow is to only put a stamp on the receipt for the final payment, not on the progress payments. I claim that the progress payments were wages and it is not necessary to put a stamp on wages. Newman was fined 5s in each of the three cases.

DEBT.

A. Berry v. F. J. Davies. Balance due for work and labour done. Order for amount with 13s costs.

WANDERING CATTLE.

Chas. S. Bray proceeded against a large number of residents for allowing their cattle to wander. Fines were inflicted as follows:—John Turner (2 cases), 10s and 9s 6d costs; John Whitten, 5s and 5s 6d costs; Albert Myall, 5s and 5s 6d costs; W. Warr, (3 cases) 15s and 13s 6d costs; John Randall, 5s and 5s 6d costs; Percy Johnson, 5s and 5s 6d costs; Albert Forrester, 5s and 5s 6d costs; Geo. Hobbs (2 cases), 10s and 9s 6d costs; Georgina Gubby (2 cases), 10s and 9s 6d costs; J. A. Sinclair, 5s and 5s 6d costs; Hanna Sheppard, 5s and 5s 6d costs; John McGrath (2 cases), 10s and 9s 6d costs; John Healey (2 cases), 10s and 9s 6d costs; Murdoch Gillies, 5s and 5s 6d costs; Mary Gray, 5s and 5s 6d costs; Daniel McAuley, 5s and 5s 6d costs; Robert Waters, 5s and 5s 6d costs; F. Harvey, 5s and 5s 6d costs; David Morgan (2 horses), 10s and 9s 6d costs; Chas. Hamling, 5s and 5s 6d costs; John O'Brien, 5s and 5s 6d costs; Geo. Gibson (2 horses and 2 cows) 20s and 16s 6d costs; Cornelius Power, 5s and 5s 6d costs; owner unknown, 5s. [The larger part of the costs were incurred for driving expenses.

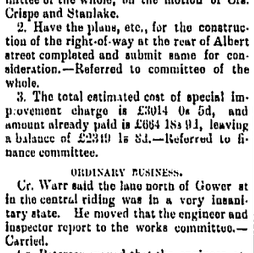
Preston Rifle Club.

A shoot will take place at Port Melb. to-day the range being 800 and 900 yards. The prize will be the rifleman's pet trophy, "a spoon," to which will be added cash prizes of lesser note.

The miniature range still flourishes and the teams competition is now entering upon its last term. The interest that has been taken in this competition has already made the committee thoughtful of the next item in the way of competitions.

The "big gun" prizes of last year, as well as the prizes of the above miniature competition, will be presented at a smoke night to be held in the Council Club hall on Saturday evening, the 11th, when it is anticipated that a very merry evening will be spent.

Cuts



SO many perils lurk behind a cut that keeping handy a pot of that great antiseptic healer, Zam-Buk, is a wise and necessary precaution. There is nothing like Zam-Buk for soothing, purifying, and healing a wound. The unique composition and herbal origin of Zam-Buk, and its great reliability have won for it a place in most households. Has Zam-Buk a place in yours?

Zam-Buk

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.

PAINTING!

We have made a study of it because we believe in good painting as a decorative feature of the home.

Two Strong Reasons for placing your Order with us.

If you don't know much about decorating and the harmony of colors our experiences profits you.

If you are a connoisseur you will appreciate all the more our good work.

D. B. MASSON,
HOUSE DECORATOR
and
IRONMONGER,
236 High St., Northcote.

You should buy at the above, Paperhangings, Leads, Oils, Colors, Varnish, Glass, Mixed Paint and Enamel, Water Paints, Ironmongery, Tinware, Brushware, Crockery, Fly Wire Wire Netting, Garden Tools, Enamelware, Lime, Cement, Plaster.

MOORE BENEFIT FUND.

£118 RAISED.

The final meeting of the above was held in the Rechabite hall, Preston, on Thursday, 25th November. In the absence of the president Mr. P. Mayer was voted to the chair. The secretary (Mr. A. E. Newton) submitted to the meeting an audited copy of the receipts and expenditure which showed a credit balance of £108 15s 11d. The committee elected Crs Allchin and Ware and Mr. A. C. Newton as trustees of the fund and to grant the sum of £1 per week to the family, and should the trustees deem it necessary power was given them to make a further grant in addition to the above. The local branch of the A.W.A. raised a sum of £10, which has already been handed over to the family. The committee would like to take this opportunity of thanking the general public for the splendid response they made, and which has enabled them to so considerably benefit the family. Congratulatory remarks on the success of the efforts of the committee and votes of thanks to the president, Mr. J. Adams, and the secretary, Mr. A. E. Newton, brought the meeting to a close.

SOCIETIES.

The half-yearly meeting of the Northcote branch A.W.A. was held at the town hall on November 22nd, the president (Mrs. Key) in the chair. Miss Grant of the Board of Directors attended and installed the officers, and also congratulated the branch on the good attendance of members and splendid progress being made. The following officers were installed:—President, Mrs Key (re-elected); vice president, Mrs. Rayment; secretary, Miss Hellwig; assistant secretary, Miss F. Batty; treasurer, Miss Barry; auditors, Miss Baty, Mrs. Lancaster; conference delegates, Mrs. Key and Mrs. Puttifoot; dispensary delegate, Miss Baty; committee—Misses McWaters, Grant, Heather, Puttifoot, and Mrs. Lancaster. Next meeting December 6.

Lady Northcote P.A.F.S. held their quarterly meeting in the Friendly Societies hall on November 25, when there was a record attendance and visiting sisters from No 4. Contributions amounting to £17 were received. Great interest was taken in the business, especially the election of officers. The lodge has been progressive, making 24 new members in six months. One new member was initiated and two proposed for next meeting, December 9, when we have a dual installation with No 52 (node.) Sister H. Richards relinquished her duties as acting secretary at the close of the lodge. Sister E. J. Ellison returning after 10 weeks holiday greatly benefitted. There has been no sick pay this quarter, which shows a healthy lodge.

The half yearly meeting of the Preston branch A.N.A. was held on Monday, Nov. 22nd, the vice president (Miss F. J. Smith) in the chair. There was a good attendance. Four proposals were received. Mrs. Threlkeld, Treasurer of the Board, and Miss Pleaco were present. The following officers were elected for the ensuing six months and installed by Mrs. Threlkeld:—President, Miss A. Gray; vice president, Miss J. Gray; treasurer, Mrs W. Kupsch; secretary, Mrs. F. W. Sheppard; assistant secretary, Miss L. Brown; committee, Mrs Howard, Misses M. Paarman, E. Taylor, F. Butt, and L. Haxby; auditors, Misses K. and F. Corbett; press correspondent, Mrs. Sheppard; delegates to conference, Mesdames Sheppard and Howard. A vote of thanks was passed to the retiring president (Miss Ozanne); also to the proprietors of the "Leader" and the installing officer. After business refreshments were handed round and a pleasant evening terminated.

The usual quarterly meeting of the H.A.C.B.S. (Preston) was held in the school room on Tuesday, November 30, the president (Bro. W. Higgs) in the chair. Eleven new members were nominated, ten full benefit and one medical benefit, which speaks well for the success of the branch. Correspondence was received from K. Gahan, secretary Fairfield church committee, inviting members to the opening of new church at Fairfield on next Sunday. Arrangements are being made for a drag to convey members to the church, leaving after nine o'clock mass on next Sunday morning. Bro. J. P. Kelly was congratulated on his re-election to the position of treasurer to Clifton Hill dispensary. Nomination of officers was proceeded with nearly every position being contested, which speaks well for the future prosperity of the branch. Election of officers and half-yearly night, December 14, 09.

Sunday School Picnic.

Holy Trinity, Thornbury, held their annual Sunday School excursion on Saturday last. The scholars, with their teachers, parents, and friends, to the number of about 300, journeyed by special train from Croxton at 9.5 a.m. to Sandringham, which was reached at about 10 o'clock. Upon arrival the children were "refreshed," after which the morning was spent upon the beach, and when dinner time came at half-past 12 the children came back to All Souls' schoolroom, which was kindly placed at the disposal of Holy Trinity S.S. by the church authorities at Sandringham. The various races were held during the afternoon, but a large number of the children preferred the water to running. Tea was served at about 6 p.m. and after some games, etc., a start was made for home. The special left Sandringham at 7.40 and all arrived safely back at Croxton. Everyone seemed to have enjoyed themselves The weather was all that could be desired and altogether the picnic was a great success.

"Naringa," Dandenong Rd., Caulfield, 25th October, 1909.

MR. C. SPARLING.

Dear Sir,—My eight day half-hour striking marble clock, the striking and going mechanism of which was out of order, and which was lying useless for years through several watchmakers failing to repair it, has been satisfactorily repaired in every particular and is now going well.

Yours gratefully,
WILLIAM ROGERSON.

C. SPARLING, Darebin Rd., Northcote

Notified orders called for.

PRESTON POLICE COURT.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30.

[Before Dr. Cole, P.M., and Messrs Braithwaite and Howe, J's.P.]

ALLEGED INSULTING BEHAVIOUR.

Constable Doble proceeded against five local youths on a charge of insulting behaviour in High and other streets on Sunday, 14th.

The informant and also Constable Lizars gave evidence that on the day in question they had seen the defendants with several other youths obstructing the footpaths, pulling one another about, and heard them shouting out and making remarks to passers by. They had laid themselves out to catch these youths on account of numerous complaints having been made.

Replying to Mr. Larkin, who appeared for the defence, the constables said they could not say they heard or saw any particular one of the accused actually do anything wrong, but they were all offending.

All the accused strenuously denied the charge.

The P.M. said that in the absence of any positive evidence the accused would be discharged, but if ever in the future a charge against them was definitely fixed they would be severely punished, as the sort of conduct they were charged with was very rife, especially on Sundays, and must be put down.

RAILWAY PROSECUTION.

Detective Bosum, of the Railway Department, proceeded against a couple of lads for tre pass, that is getting on the platform and boarding the train by a way that was not open to the public. The prosecutor detailed circumstances under which he would not press for a heavy penalty, and the lads had promised not to do it again. Fined 5s each.

STOMACH TROUBLE ENDED.

A Great Sufferer's Gratitude to Bile Beans.

Mr. George L. Burton, of 41 Little Palmerston street, Carlton, Vic., gives a graphic story of his sufferings from terrible stomach troubles, and his cure by Bile Beans after all other treatments had signally failed. Mr. Burton has been a resident of Carlton for the past twenty years, and is part proprietor of the Sunrise Improved Acetylene Gas Co.

"Some twelve months ago," says Mr. Burton, "I became very ill, and it was with great difficulty that I performed my duties as representative of the above company. I suffered from terrible pains in my stomach and kidneys—the outcome of a severe bilious attack. Indigestion also added to my misery. On rising every morning I had a fit of dry retching, which would last for fully an hour. After trying many so-called cures a friend advised me to give Bile Beans a trial. I can honestly say that Bile Beans are the most efficient remedy I have come across, for I gained relief from the first two doses. One box of Bile Beans was sufficient to restore me to good health, and my entire thanks are due to Bile Beans."

Bile Beans have a world-wide reputation for promptly and permanently curing indigestion, biliousness, headache, constipation, piles, female ailments, bad blood and breath, anæmia, summer fag, and all liver, stomach, and digestive troubles. Of all chemists and stores.

Cricket Materials

for Season 1909 10.

To Secretaries of Local Cricket Clubs and Schools.

We are prepared to supply any Cricket Material you may require at TOWN PRICES.

BATS from 10/ to 25/.
A Splendid Lot to choose from.
BALLS—Compo. from 6/ to 2/6.
" Leather—Duke's from 8/6.
" " Sheffield's, 7/6.
WICKETS, PADS, GLOVES.
Matting and Nets supplied to order.
Bats Bound and Repaired.
Tennis Rackets Re-Strung, &c.
A TRIAL SOLICITED.

T. THOMSON,
NEWS AGENT, &c.,
HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE
(opposite Savings Bank).

Are you allowing faulty illustrations to be inserted wit your advertising matter?

If so, you are killing the convincing power of your advertisement.

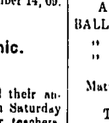
Allow me to give you advice when in doubt as to which class of block to use.

I have every facility for the making and perfecting of half-tone and zinc blocks for newspapers, magazines, and catalogues.

Write or phone 1553 Central.

H. W. VEREY,
479 Collins Street, Melbourne.

Printing!
Work of Every Class executed at the LEADER OFFICE



A. FREEMAN,

Wholesale and Retail Produce Merchant,

HIGH ST., NORTH PRESTON,

WISHES to notify the residents of Preston and surrounding districts that he will open business on 1st December at above address.

Having had 20 years' experience in the Wholesale and Retail Chaff and Grain Trade, is a guarantee that Mr. Freeman is able to buy at the lowest prices and therefore give customers the benefit of his knowledge in supplying the best article at the lowest price.

Chaff and Grain of all descriptions will be kept in stock and special attention will be given to those who require Fowls' Feed.

Farmers and Dairymen would do well to consult Mr. Freeman before buying Bran, as being a very large buyer he is able to put them on the best footing.

The store is commodious and is being erected by Mr. A. Pepper, of 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, 3 to 4.
Terms on application.

MR. SIDNEY R. COLE, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., London;
PROFESSOR of VOICE PRODUCTION, SINGING and PIANOFORTE.

Desires to notify that in consequence of a large increase of pupils in the City he is unable to visit Northcote as heretofore.

Mr. Cole has leased at Austral Buildings, 117 Collins Street, one of the largest and most commodious studios in the City where he will receive all his pupils on and after December 1st, 1909.

The New Year's term commences February 1st, 1910.

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.
Preston visited twice weekly.

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.

MRS. A. T. EARL,
TEACHER of the VIOLIN.
(Late Pupil of Thos. Bidgood, Bandmaster, and Gold Medalist London Academy of Music.)
Careful and Thorough Tuition for Children and Adults.
Pupils visited or received.
Fees (in advance)—From £1 1s per quarter.
Pupils prepared for Examinations.
Violins supplied.
Songs written for musical setting.
Sketches and Operettas written.
"Bushwood," Dundas St., Upper Northcote.

MISS FANNY SCARCEBROOK, Certificated Pupil of Mr. Henry Curtis, Cert. Violin Trinity College, London, Receives Pupils for VIOLIN.
"Glen Alvie," 44 Kemp Street, Croxton; or, 22 Hamburg St., East Richmond.

Announcements.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

Membrey & Deane
(J. G. MEMBREY—J. V. DEANE),
Estate, Financial & Insurance Agents,
SWORN VALUER
(Telephone No. 4682, Central),
Beg to notify that on and after 1st July the business will be REMOVED to more COMMODIOUS OFFICES on the ground floor of LOMBARD BUILDINGS, No. 17 QUEEN ST. (between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane.
Loans Negotiated Promptly.
Auctions Arranged.
Fire and Life Insurances Effected.

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

NORTHCOTE & PRESTON AUCTION and ESTATE AGENCY.
Gordon Garrett & Co.,
583-585 HIGH ST.,
UPPER NORTHCOTE.
Near Thornbury station.
Insurances Effected. Loans Negotiated.
Rents Collected. Valuations Made.
Auction Sales Conducted any district.
Plans & specifications of houses prepared.

PRESTON and NORTHCOTE
Live Stock Market.
POULTRY, FURNITURE, SUNDRIES,
Every WEDNESDAY 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.

J. J. Spence,
First-Class License, M.M.B.W.,
SANITARY PLUMBER
and
Sewerage Contractor.
Gas and Water laid on.
81 Gooch Street, 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—10th December.
Impromptu Speaking.
H. F. BATTEN, Sec., 150 Charles St.

Independent Order of Rechabites.
Star of Northcote Tent No. 217.
MEETINGS held at Rechabite Hall every alternate Thursday
Next Meeting—9th December.
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.
38 Raleigh St., Northcote.

Dentists.

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.

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

Announcements

The Preston Pharmacy.
W. G. FEGENT
(late with Ford & Co., Toorak),
Successor to J. Slade,
PHARMACEUTICAL and DISPENSING CHEMIST,
257 HIGH STREET, PRESTON.
THE Dispensing of Physician's prescriptions is a special feature 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.

The Thornbury Grocer
E. W. INGHAM
563 High St.,
UPPER NORTHCOTE.
Families Waited on for Orders.
Delivery daily.
GIVE HIM A TRIAL.

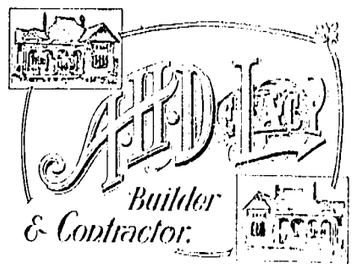
D. J. Cameron,
(Over 12 years with Tacoys)
HAVING purchased A. HELM'S BUTCHERING BUSINESS,
411 High St., Northcote
(opposite Redmond's, ironmonger),
Begs to notify the Public of Northcote and surrounding districts that he will supply them with the
Best Quality Meat
at
LOWEST CASH PRICES.
CORNED BEEF AND SAUSAGES A SPECIALITY.
Families waited on for orders.

GOOD NEWS! FOR Preston Housewives.
Hughes & Jacobs
(late with W. Tacey)
Oash & Family Butchers
at
HIGH ST., PRESTON
(Opposite Wilkinson's Timber Yard),
Best of Meat and Small Goods at NORTHCOTE PRICES.
Corned Beef and Sausages a Speciality.
Goods Delivered to Customers at the Shop Cash Prices.

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.

Business Notices



ARTHURTON ROAD, NORTHCOTE.
Plans and Specifications drawn up.
Estimates given for all Branches of the Trade.

HAVE YOU TRIED?
McALPIN'S
Self-Raising FLOUR.
NEW ELECTRIC PROCESS.
AWARDED FIRST PRIZE.
Ask your Grocer for it.

Delicious! Sustaining!
TRYAMBRO!
THE FRUIT FOOD.
Made from MILDURA Fruit and Nuts.
Supplies the Pure Diet of Fruit and Nuts so highly recommended by the Medical Profession all over the World.
ABSOLUTELY PURE.
Ask your Grocer for One Pound Household Blocks, Price 10d.
Use it as a Filling for Cakes or Sandwiches, between Bread, Biscuits, or Wafers
AMBRO LIMITED, Mildura and Fitzroy.

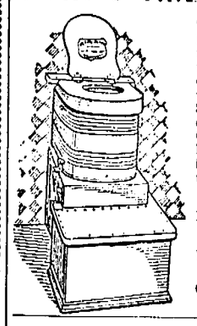
URUBNOT!
What is it?
ASK YOUR GROCER.
SAVES TIME, TROUBLE, MONEY, & WORRY.
Central Store, 52 Young St., Fitzroy, Manufacturers. City Depot: 52 Elizabeth St.

AN AUSTRALIAN SPRAY
FOR
AUSTRALIAN ORCHARDS.
"AUSTRAL" BRAND
ARSENATE OF LEAD
FOR
CODLIN MOTH
AND ALL LEAF-EATING INSECTS.
IS RELIABLE AND UNIFORM.

1lb. tins at	10d lb.	28lb. "	8d lb.
2lb. "	10d "	56lb. "	7½d "
7lb. "	9d "	112lb. "	7d "
14lb. "	8½d "		

MANUFACTURED BY
A. J. JENKINS, Chemist,
CLIFTON HILL

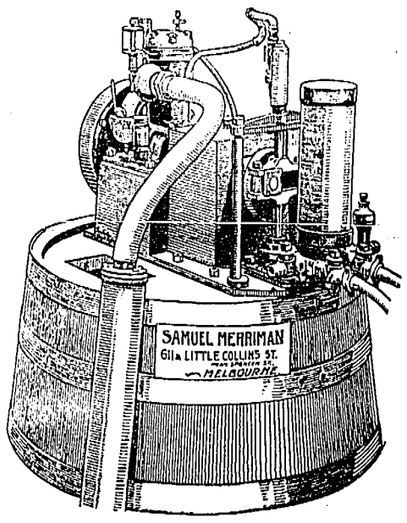
BERRY PATENT AUTOMATIC CLOSET



The ONLY Rival to Deep Drainage. Best ever invented. Being Automatic Saves all Trouble. Fly, mosquito, and vermin proof. Always clean and sweet. Works like a watch. Guarantee given with each one sent out. No earth, ashes, or sawdust required. Can be used inside as well as outside. Only perfect system yet introduced. Specially constructed for use where not connected with deep drainage. Safeguard against infectious disease. Once purchased, it lasts a lifetime. Cost of disinfectant less than one penny a week. The comfort and cleanliness in using this closet appeal to one and all, and it is worth ten times what we ask for it.

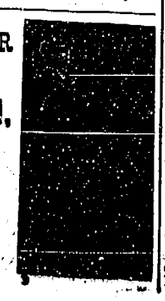
BERRY AUTOMATIC CLOSET CO.
Patentees & Manufacturers. Telephone 1017 City.
ADDRESS: 26 A'BECKETT ST., MELBOURNE,
Where the article can be inspected from 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., Saturdays 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
GIBSON & SON, 479 Law Courts Place, Melb., or BERRY AUTOMATIC CLOSET CO.

Merriman's Power & Spray Pumps
ARE THE BEST.



SAMUEL MERRIMAN, Brass Founder, Engineer, & Spray Pump Maker, 611a Little Lonsdale St., Melb. Phone 1075, City.

CONSULT the DANISH MASSUER and MAGNETIC HEALER,
Professor R. OVESEN,
366 ST. KILDA ROAD,
near Hoadley's Jam Factory,
CONSULTATION FREE.
HOURS—From 10 to 12 a.m. and 4 to 6 p.m. daily.



Educational.

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, 1 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.
Dancing, Mons. Bibron, Friday evening, 2/6.

KING'S COLLEGE,
CLIFTON HILL
(near Northcote Bridge).
Principal:
G. COCHRANE, B.A., T.C.D., &c.
Vice-Principal:
T. COCHRANE (Melb. Univ.),
Assisted by Visiting Staff.
Telephone Attendants' Examination on Tuesday nights and General Improvement, Fee, £1 1s.
Pharmacy on Thursday nights. Fees by arrangement. Both held at College.
Ground. Gymn

Austral Coaching College.
A SPLENDID SECONDARY SCHOOL.
JUNIOR PUBLIC.
SENIOR PUBLIC.
Classes Day & Night.
Special Equipment for Medical and Dental Students.
GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS.
Students are prepared successfully for all Government Examinations.
Non-Clerical, Railways, State Public Service.
Commonwealth Public Service.
Telephone Attendants.
CLASSES DAY AND NIGHT, ALL SUBJECTS.
105 LITTLE COLLINS ST.
F. THOMAS, B.A.

Milk Suppliers.

PRESTON DAIRY,
GOWER ST., PRESTON.

M. Walsh,
Cowkeeper and Dairyman
Cattle and Premises under Inspection the Board of Public Health.
Pure Milk Direct from the Cow to the Consumer. Strippings and One Cow's Milk a Speciality. Absolutely free from coloring matter or preservatives.
No second dealing or with other traders.
Deliveries twice daily in Northcote and surrounding.

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.

Accountancy.

Established 1885.
JOSEPH T. DOWNING, ACCOUNTANT.
Licensed Auditor Companies Act.
Tradesmen's Books opened and kept, day or evening.
Accounts Adjusted and Collected.
SWORN VALUATOR.
Commissioner for Taking Declarations and Affidavits.
"Montana," 30 Helen St., Northcote. Trust Moneys To Land.

Nurserymen.

Northcote Leader.

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

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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1909.

Printed and published by the proprietors, R. J. and J. S. WHALLEY, at their office, 197 High street, Northcote, in the State of Victoria.

Price 1d

Mr. 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. Sole Agent for Northcote of Celebrated Sickle Brand of RETORTED CHARCOAL.

A. WATSON'S

HAY & CORN STORE.
Wood & Coke Yard,
is at
354 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.

J. KIDD,

Hay & Corn, Wood & Coal Merchant,

480 High Street, Northcote,

HAS ON SALE—
Chaff, Oats, Bran, Pollard, Wheat, Maize, Lucerne Chaff,

And all kinds of Poultry Feed.

Agent for Singer's and Pratt's Poultry Food.

Best Box Blocks, Maitland and Pelaw Main Coal.

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.

Ladies' Costumes a Specialty.

PICTURES FRAMED

In Up-to Date and Artistic Style
at
G. H. JACOBS'
255 JOHNSTON STREET, FITZROY
(6 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 Specialty.

J. W. DURANCE,
(late of Ostanech's)
Watchmaker,
Fifth floor Equitable Buildings, Collins St., City.
Repairs Watches of all kinds,
Sells Reliable Levers, Gold, Silver, Gun Metal.
Private Address: 33 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. O. 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. 950. WEST MELB.
High Street, Northcote.
Queen's Parade, Clifton Hill.
Tel. 3776.
All Funeral arrangements promptly attended to.
Charges Moderate | Terms Arranged

FIRST-CLASS CHINESE LAUNDRY
AH HAY,
HIGH STREET, THORNBURY
(next Best, Draper.

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.

Note J. T. COLES & Co.'s "Cole" Strike Prices.

25lbs. Brunton's Flour, 2/10½; 150 Test Kerosene, 3/1½ tin; New Pine Apples, 5d tin; Morton's Bloater Paste, 2½d; Morton's Fresh Herrings, 3½d; Quart Bottle Sauce, 4½d; Candles, 4½ pkt.; Sand Soap, 1½d; Table Tomatoes, 5½d tin; 2lbs. B. Currant Jam, 7d; 2lbs. Raspberry Jam, 7½d; 3 pkts. J.T.C. Flour, 1/; New Raisins, 3½d lb; Morton's Kippered Herrings, 4½d and 1½d; Morton's Herrings and Sauce, 4d and 6½d; O.T. Punch, 8½ bot.; New Season Dates, 4d lb.; Fruit or Plain Cake, 6d lb; Brookhall's Rice, Mixed, Coffee or Ginger Nuts, 4d lb.; Table Jellies, 10½d doz; Custard Powders, 9d doz; Salmon 4½d tin; Preserved Apricots, 7½d; Pears, 8½d; Peaches, 8½d; Plums, 5½d; 2 tins Quince Jam, 1/; Large Sardines, 4½d tin; 15 Bars Coon Soap, 1/; Cups and Wafers in stock; Prime Cheese, 6½d lb; Preserved Ginger, 7½d lb.

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
" Ironed only — 3d
Collars, Washed and Ironed — 1d
" 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
BACON CURERS AND Small Goods Manufacturers.
'Phone 3601. NORTHCOTE, Vic.

Champion & First Prize Winners for HAMS and BACON at the Royal Agricultural Show, Melb.

All Goods Manufactured under the supervision of the Central Board of Health.

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 & Frankforts are just the thing for the Tea & Breakfast Table.

FACTORY & 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.

C. POWER,
Cartage Contractor,
37 CHARLES ST., NORTHCOTE.
Phone 311, Brunswick.

Lorrys, Drays, and Teams for all classes of Carting.

Back Loading from the City a Specialty.

COAL delivered to Householders at lowest market rates.

TO Have the Least Possible Expense and the Greatest Comfort in Cooking, use a

"BOBS"

(burns coal or wood)

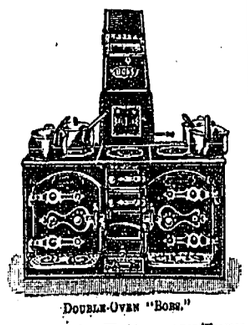
Made in three sizes—No. 1, 2ft. wide
No. 2, 2ft. 3in. wide
No. 3, 3 ft. wide

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—419 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.

WHAT IS ESSENTIAL

to add to your comfort during the summer months is

A GAS STOVE,

which will save you endless drudgery in the kitchen.

On rental at the rate of 1/6 per month, or—

On Hire Purchase System: Small deposit and from 2/- month.

A GAS STOVE is indispensable and also ensures EFFICIENCY, CLEANLINESS, and RIGID ECONOMY

COOKING BY GAS means a saving of half the labor necessary with other methods, besides keeping the kitchen clean and the temperature down to a minimum.

The Metropolitan Gas Company,

186 FLINDERS ST., MELBOURNE.

Phone Nos. 339, 340, 967, 9713.

Business Announcements

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 are as follows—

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.

Above is the well-known establishment of

F. PIKE, General House Decorator,

GRAINER, SIGNWRITER, &c.,
PLENTY ROAD, SOUTH PRESTON.

All kinds of Builders' Ironmongery, Lime, Cement, &c., stocked. Oils, Colors, Glass, &c., at Lowest Rates. The smallest as well as the largest jobs undertaken.

ESTIMATES GIVEN FOR ALL KINDS OF HOUSE REPAIRS.

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 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—new 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 onarges are low.

For Easy & Comfortable Shaving Try Woolhouse's Latest Magnetic Steel Razors.

THE
Orient Marine & Stationary
3½ H.P. ENGINES 100 H.P.

Made for all Shipping and Farm Purposes.

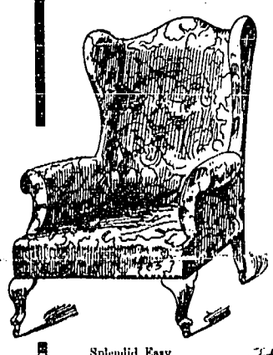
Suppliers to the Victorian Government, Ports and Harbours, Health Department, Goldfields Diamond Drilling Co.

Guaranteed for 12 Months.

Particulars on application to

C. S. DEAN,
Motor Manufacturer, Mentone.

CASH or TERMS. 'Phone 71 Cheltenham.

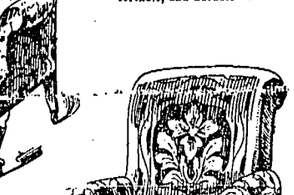


A Trio of Specials

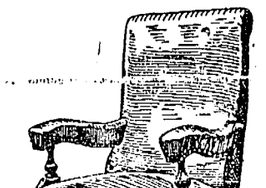
No matter what your purchase from CLAUSCEN'S might be, you can always rely on getting the best workmanship and materials at the lowest possible price. Our 25 years' reputation as Melbourne's Leading House Furnishers stands behind every article we sell. The chairs illustrated are splendid value at the prices—strongly and well put together—artistic, comfortable, and durable—chairs that will give satisfaction.

Splendid Easy Chair, Handsomely upholstered in Tapestry, £2 2 6.
Saddlebags, £2 5/.
Art Serge Cretonne, £1 17/6.

Furniture for the Drawing Room, Dining Room, and Bedroom at CLAUSCEN'S.



Saddlebag Easy Chair, nicely upholstered in best saddlebag or Utrecht Velvet; numerous shapes and designs, £3 15/-.



A splendidly-made chair, strong frame, nicely upholstered in Art Serge, Cretonne, £1 7/6; Tapestry or Saddlebag, £

Clauscen & Co., FURNISHING ARCADE, 194-6 Bourke St., City.

RIDE A "MOA" CYCLE

SWIFT, LIGHT AND STRONG.

Covers, Tubes, Lamps, Pumps—all Makes and Prices.

We Leave all Others Behind!

Large Stock Secondhand Cycles. Repairs, Nickelling, &c.

Three Grades—
The Moa Special, The Moa No 2, The Moa No 3
£14 10s £12 10s £8 10s

BUILT AT THE
"Moa" Cycle Works, 218 High St., Northcote.
W. MERSON. Established 1894.

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.

Afternoon Tea Sets from 5/4. 40-piece Tea Sets, 13/11.

Wholesale & Retail Depot—
90 HIGH STREET,
NORTHCOTE SOUTH.

Nurses.

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. Heliers,"
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.

Announcements

PURE BRED POULTRY.
FIRST-CLASS LAYING STRAINS.

BROWN LEGHORN HENS,
Bred from Dookie Competition Pens, mated to cock imported by Mr. H. Bunneman.
Settings, 3/6 and 10/6.

SILVER WYANDOTTES,
Bred from Mr. Bunneman, Dookie Competition Winners.
Settings, 7/6. Unfertile replaced.

YOUNG STOCK FOR SALE.

Correspondence Invited.
A. C. W. BAILEY,
WOLLERT, via EPPING.

Eggs! Eggs!! Eggs!!!

THE VICTORIAN EGG-LAYING COMPETITION,
Bastings Street, Northcote,
Under the auspices of "The Poultry and Kennel World."

A Real Object Lesson, the Latest and Most Up-to-Date Method of Poultry-Keeping.

2000 Birds can be kept on an acre on this system.

The Very Thing for Small Holders and Suburban Poultry-Keepers.

Admission 6d (Sunday excepted).
H. MCKENZIE, Manager,
"Burnette," Bastings St., Northcote.

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.

Carpenters.

W. Gribble,
CARPENTER and JOINER,
HOUSE REPAIRER,
231 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE
(near Methodist Church).

Saws, Scissors, and Lawn Mowers Set and Sharpened.

Venetian Blinds Painted, Re-Taped and Corded.

Vienna Chairs and Furniture Repaired and Stained like New.

Household Requirements in Wood.

AN AUSTRALIAN SPRAY FOR AUSTRALIAN ORCHARDS.

"AUSTRAL" BRAND
ARSENATE OF LEAD
FOR
CODLIN MOTH
AND ALL LEAF-EATING INSECTS.

IS RELIABLE AND UNIFORM.

1lb. tins at	10½ lb.	28lb. "	8d lb.
2lb. "	10d "	56lb. "	7½d "
7lb. "	9d "	112lb. "	7d "
14lb. "	8½d "		

MANUFACTURED BY
A. J. JENKINS, Chemist,
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).

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.

Tailors

FOR UP-TO-DATE CLOTHING AND REAL GOOD VALUE
go to
INCE BROS.,
TAILORS & OUTFITTERS.

Suits from £3 3/. Trousers from 15/6
Ladies' Costumes a Specialty.
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 the utmost despatch.

Don't forget the only address—
"Our Tailors,"
VEREY & CROSS,
242 SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD.

Plenty Road and Garnet St.,
STH. PRESTON.

Arch. Wilkinson,
TAILOR
AND MERCER.

NEW GOODS for the Spring and Summer season just opened.

A choice variety of Suitings, Coatings and Trouserings in all the Latest Shades.

Hats, Shirts, Ties and Hosiery in great variety.

Straw Hats—a special line—all the latest shapes in stock.

Suits to Order from £2 2/-
Cricketing Trousers to order from 12/-

LADIES' COSTUMES A SPECIAL STUDY.

Announcements

W. T. ROWE

(Over 17 years with F. Yann, also three 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 Returned.

Best Materials Used. A Work Guaranteed.

Plumbers.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

J. DENYER,

LICENSED PLUMBER & GASFITTER, TINSMITH & IRONWORKER,
Next Wesleyan Schoolroom,
232 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE

Water Mowers Erected in 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

SEWERAGE!

IS YOUR HOUSE CONNECTED?
If not—
R. H. NELSON,
LICENSED SANITARY PLUMBER
and
SEWERAGE CONTRACTOR,
COLLINS STREET, THORNBURY
(Upper Northcote)

Will give you a GOOD, SOUND and RELIABLE JOB.

TWELVE MONTHS' GUARANTEE GIVEN EACH CONTRACT.

Post Cards promptly attended to.

Estimates for all classes of work submitted.

Water Meters Fixed.

JOHN SHAW,
(Licensed by M. & M. B. W.),
LICENSED PLUMBER,
GASFITTER,
ELECTRIC & WIRE BELLHANGER,
303 HIGH STREET,
NORTHCOTE.

Estimates Given for Sewer Connections.

Post Cards attended to.

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:
11 a.m. and 7 p.m., Rev. A. C. KELLAWAY.

HOLY TRINITY, THORNBURY.

Third Sunday in Advent.
11 a.m., Matins and Holy Communion with Sermon.
4.15 p.m., Holy Baptism.
7.30 p.m., Choral Evensong and Sermon.

CROXTON METHODIST HALL, Corner Shaftesbury Parade and St. George's Road.

Sunday, 12th December.
7 p.m., Mr. W. OLVER.
Sunday School at 2.30.

INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Town Hall, Northcote.

Rev. HECTOR FERGUSON, Minister.
Morning, "A Religion that Binds all Religions in One."
Evening, "Aristocracy, Democracy, and God."
Mr. Sinclair's Young Men's Class, 3.

NORTHCOTE BAPTIST CHURCH.

Sunday Services:
Preacher—Rev. T. NICHOL, morning and evening.
All welcome to all services.

NORTHCOTE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Rev. R. W. ROCK, Minister.
Sabbath Services:
Morning subject, "Imperfection."
Evening subject, "The Ceasing of the Manna."
Seats free. All cordially welcome.
Young Men's Bible Class at 3. Leader, J. L. Clarke, M.A.

NORTHCOTE METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday Services:
Morning, Mr. G. HUNTER.
Evening, Rev. J. NALL.
All seats free. Strangers welcomed.

NORTHCOTE CHURCH of CHRIST, Rechabite Hall, Westbourne Grove.

Sunday Meetings:
11 a.m., Lord's Supper.
3 p.m., Bible School.
7 p.m., Gospel Service. Preacher—Mr. S. STEVENS.
All Seats Free. No Collection. All welcome.

PRINCE OF WALES' PARK METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday Services:
Morning, Rev. T. ALDAY.
Evening, Mr. R. OLVER.
All Seats Free Strangers Welcomed.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PRESTON.

Services will be held every Sabbath Evening, at 7 o'clock, in Messrs Nicol and Miller's Rooms, Tram Terminus. Presbyterian families and all attached to no Church welcomed.

SOUTH PRESTON METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday Service:
Morning, Rev. L. S. MACDOUGALL.
Evening, Mr. RIGG.
Bright Singing. All welcome.

Dress and Fashion.

Xmas! Xmas!

A. LEWIS,
350 QUEEN'S PARADE,
NORTH FITZROY,
Has Large Assortment of
New Lines
in
FANCY GOODS,
GLASSWARE, VASES,
PERFUMERY,
STATIONERY and TOYS.

Also all the NEWEST DESIGNS in XMAS and NEW YEAR CARDS for the Xmas Trade.

Open Every Night for Stationery and Cards.

INSPECT WINDOW BEFORE PURCHASING ELSEWHERE.

MISS BRETT,
Ladies' Draper,
289 HIGH ST.,
NORTHCOTE,
is offering Good Values
in
INFANTS' and CHILDREN'S BONNETS,
DRESSES, PINAFORES, &c.,
in Newest Styles.

Also a Large Assortment of LADIES' and CHILDREN'S UNDERCLOTHING.

Come and Inspect the Stock.
Every courtesy will be shown to Customers.

ARCH. WILKINSON,
TAILOR and MERCER,
Plenty Road & Garnet Streets,
SOUTH PRESTON.

Special Novelties
for the
Holiday Season.

Fashion's Soft Summer Shirts in great variety.

Our Straw Hats are a Special Line.

We have a large assortment of TIES suitable for Xmas and New Year Presents. All the Latest Colors in wide ends.

SEE THE DISPLAY IN OUR WINDOWS.

Suits to Order from £2 2s

Wanted to sell.

PEN White Leghorns, 5 hens and cockerel, cheap. 143 Bell street, Preston.

Wanted

GENERAL.—Sleep at home. Mrs. Birrwistle, "Elton," Bell-st., Preston.

Houses and Land To Let.

W. Queen Anne Villa, tiled roof, 7 rooms, conveniences, hot water, 2 a car, close station, 17/6 Robertson, Bell street.

NUNAN, COLLINS, & CO.,
Furniture, Carpets, Linoleums, &c.,
212 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
And 300-2 Bridge Rd., Richmond.
CASH OR EASY TERMS.

VERANDAH BLINDS, best quality, all complete.

3 x 6—White, 1/-	Green, 1/9
4 x 8—White, 2/3	Green, 3/-
6 x 8—White, 3/3	Green, 5/-
8 x 8—White, 4/3	Green, 7/-
10 x 8—White, 5/3	Green, 8/-
12 x 8—White, 7/-	Green, 9/9

Special Bargains in Millinery & Corsets
—FOR CHRISTMAS.—

GREAT REDUCTIONS
in Trimmed Hats.
Holiday Hats, trimmed, from 3/11
Untrimmed Hats, newest shapes, from 1/11.
Children's from 1/-
All leading makes in CORSETS kept in stock from 2/11.
Ribbon Corsets from 1/6.
Short makes from 1/11.

MRS. HOLLAND,
118, 120, 122 Smith Street,
—COLLINGWOOD.

W. ANGLISS & CO,
Family Butchers,
HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.

We invite the housekeepers of the district to inspect our Lovely Show of Meat at Great Reductions in prices.

Mutton from 1½d lb.
Roast Beef from 2d lb
Corn Beef from 2d lb.
Sausages, 2½d lb.
Mince, 2d lb.

All other Prime Joints Equally Reduced.

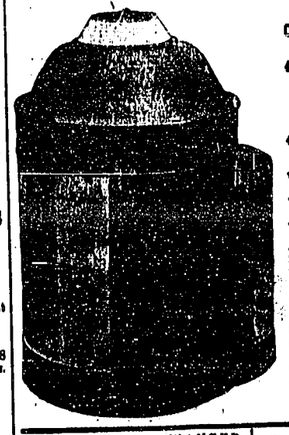
TRY OUR SMALL GOODS.
THEY ARE THE BEST.

One Visit to our Shop will convince you that ours is the BEST and CHEAPEST MEAT in the district.

Thanking you for past favors and soliciting a further continuance of your esteemed patronage.

W. ANGLISS & Co.,
High St., Northcote.

T. E. REDMOND
Ironmonger,
Crockery, Oil and Color Merchant,
410 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE



Hanging Meat Safes.
Square and Round,
One Quality—THE BEST.
4/6, 5/6, 6/6, 7/11, 9/6, 9/11 & 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, 8/6, 8/11, & 10/11.
Fly Wire, Green & Galvanised, cheap 3 inch Hose, 6d per foot.
A large shipment of English Cutlery to hand from noted Sheffield makers. Dessert and Table Knives from 5/6 half doz; Carvers, 3/11, 5/11, 8/11 and 9/11 pair; Scissors, Butchers' & Pocket Knives, Table, Tea and Dessert Spoons and Forks. All my goods are the best quality, and will be satisfactory to users.
Telephone 312 (Brunswick).

JUST WHAT'S WANTED.
LARGE BRICK STORE
for
STORING FURNITURE and PIANOS, any quantity.
Apply H. KNIGHT, Furniture Remover, 255 High St., Northcote.

MRS FALLON
(late of Preston Arms Hotel),
WILL be pleased to see old friends and new at her
REFRESHMENT ROOMS,
310 High Street, Northcote.
Tea, Coffee, &c., at all hours.

Frost's Livery Stables,
70 Mansfield St., Northcote.
Fore Hire—Drags and Waggonettes.
Weddings and Parties catered for.
TERMS REASONABLE.

COOPERS,
HIGH STREET, PRESTON,
for
ICE CREAM, SUMMER DRINKS, and CONFECTIONERY.

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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
J. WILKINSON. Private address—
"Eyllingdale," 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. 978, City.

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BARRISTER and
SOLICITOR,
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The Leader

JUSTICE TO ALL

Published Every Saturday Morning.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11.

At 4 o'clock to-day there will be an interesting ceremony at the Northcote park, where the mayoress (Mrs. W. Hayes) will formally open the children's play ground, which has been provided by the Northcote South Ratepayers' Association. Ratepayers are asked to show their appreciation of this boon for their children by attending in large numbers. This is not the only south ward event for to-day. In the evening at 8 there will be the usual all-bioscope concert at the park.

Cr. Plant thinks Northcote has reached a stage when it should have three deliveries of letters a day. The concession is now given to High street. He moved that the Postal Department be asked to extend it all over the town. The motion was seconded by Cr. Lees and carried unanimously.

Preston's financial statement is now printed and open to the inspection of ratepayers at the shire offices. The meeting of the council to finally settle and allow the same will be held on Monday evening, 28th inst., at 7.30.

Yesterday the girls of Westleigh College, present and past, entertained at afternoon tea at the College, Northcote, Miss Evelyn Scotney, who is about to proceed to Europe to complete her musical education under Marchesi. Miss Scotney was also presented with a nice little souvenir of the occasion.

There is to be a grand garden fete at "Latona," the residence of Mrs. Bradley, Shaftesbury parade, this afternoon and evening in aid of the funds of Holy Trinity Church. Leading artists have promised their assistance for the musical programme, and hosts of other attractions will be provided. Every child visiting the fair is promised a Christmas present. The fete will be opened at 3 p.m. by the mayor (Cr. Hayes), and will be reopened in the evening.

Miss Ivy Bickford, Northcote, scored a most gratifying success last Saturday at the twelfth annual performance of opera by the students of the Marshall-Hall Conservatorium of Music. She had a scene from Lortzing's opera, "The Armourer," all to herself, and she both sang and acted the part with conspicuous success. Miss Bickford was recalled several times at the conclusion of her performance. Selections from "Hansel and Gretel," "Faust," and "Der Freischutz" were also given, and the orchestra, under Marshall Hall, played a couple of selections in captivating style.

The Rev. Hector Ferguson's lecture on behalf of the Preston Library piano fund passed off very successfully. There was a full house who appreciated to the full the rev. gentleman's able delineation of Scrooge, Marley, Bob Cratchit, and the various other characters who figure in the immortal pages of the Christmas Carol. Over £5 was noted.

On Tuesday evening next at the Northcote town hall a grand concert is to be given in aid of the funds of Holy Trinity Tennis Club. An excellent programme has been provided, including songs by Miss Partridge, Miss Vida Lush, Miss Jessie Davies, Mr. Paley Hammett, and Mr. Will Davies, recitations by Miss Voni Medlyn, mimicry of birds and animals and conjuring by Mr. Horace Jones, humorous sketch by Miss Maud Kinsman and Mr. Jas. H. Davey and selections by the Amphion Orchestra.

Westleigh College annual concert and distribution of prizes takes place at the Fitzroy town hall on Wednesday evening next, 15th inst.

Xmas fair now proceeding at Haltam and Haltam's. Great bargains in ladies' and children's boots and shoes.—[advt.]

A very nice trophy awaits the dux of the Northcote State school in the shape of an artistically designed and weighty gold medal, the gift of Cr. H. Bastings.

At the local town hall on Thursday evening next, the Northcote section of the Imperial Boy Scouts will hold a concert in aid of their funds. A good programme is promised by boy scouts and assisting artists.

The South Preston Methodist Church are holding a Xmas fair and sale of gifts at the Bradford hall on Wednesday next, December 15. Capt. Howe, president of the shire, is to perform the opening ceremony and a good programme will be provided. The ladies of the church have been working hard for several months and will make a splendid display of fancy and useful articles, while the great attraction for the children will be a large Xmas tree. The fair is in aid of the church repair fund.

Preston shire council invite tenders, returnable up to 4 p.m. on Monday, 20th, at Shire offices, for 1000 yards of maintenance metal in four contracts.

The social held a few weeks back in the Northcote town hall in aid of the Winder family, and arranged by Mrs Keys, has resulted in a profit of £7 8s. Thanks are due to all who assisted, more especially the musicians, Messrs Brown and Martin.

Messrs Nunan, Collins & Co., furniture warehousemen, 212 High street, Northcote, advertise to-day their special prices for window blinds both green and white.

The 10th annual demonstration of Alexandra College, Northcote, will be held in All Saints' hall next Tuesday night. Included in the programme will be the cantata, "The Doll's Wedding."

F. G. Smith, drapers, Northcote, advertise their special lines for the holidays in to-day's issue.

Mrs. Blaskett acknowledges with thanks the receipt of five shillings from an anonymous donor, for the deserving case already mentioned in the *Leader*. In the course of her police court work both at Northcote and Preston Mrs. Blaskett comes in contact with many cases of genuine poverty and distress. She would like to encourage the young women and children with a little Christmas present, either a blouse, or doll, or some other small useful article. She will feel glad if those who are disposed and have the ability to assist in such a deserving cause will kindly forward donations to her at 49 Spencer street, Croxton.

At the Croxton recreation ground finals and semi finals of the sports meeting will be run off to-night. On Monday there will be the second section of the song and dance competition, also bioscope concert.

Arch. Wilkinson, tailor and mercer, Plenty road, South Preston, advertises to-day special novelties for the holiday season.

A concert is to be given by the pianoforte pupils of Miss M. V. Maguire, assisted by vocalists, at the Northcote town hall on Tuesday evening. A dance is to follow the concert.

At Haltam and Haltam's Xmas fair blouses costumes, and millinery, also hosiery, ribbons and laces are offered at special prices. [adv]

On Thursday evening next at the Melbourne town hall Miss Evelyn Scotney, the most promising young singer of Melbourne at the present time, is to be tendered a farewell concert prior to her departure to Europe to complete her studies under the famous Marchesi, to whom Madame Melba, who is taking a warm interest in the young singer, is to personally introduce her. The artists assisting will be—Madame Maggie Stirling, Herr Edouard Scharf, Herr Louis Hattenbach, Signor J. Amadio, Mrs. Trailord Foster, and Mr. Harold Elvins, names sufficient to guarantee a splendid programme. Tickets may be had from the mayoress (Mrs. Hayes), and Miss Westgarth, Westleigh College, who are both acting on the committee.

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NORTHCOTE AND PRESTON LINE.

GREAT IMPROVEMENTS ABOUT TO BE MADE.

LINE DUPLICATED. NEW STATIONS.

At last these districts are to be granted a measure of the improved railway facilities for which they have so long waited.

Mr. Membrey, M.L.A., informs us that the Railway Loan Application Bill introduced into the House yesterday makes provision for new stations at Merri, Croxton, Thornbury, and Bell, and also the duplication of the line to the Preston Reservoir. For the latter work a sum of £13,200 is put down.

At every station along the line the platforms are being lengthened to admit of longer trains

With duplication of the line we are sure not only to have longer but more frequent trains, which will be a boon to the residents and give the district that "lift" which it is so well entitled to.

The Member for the district, Mr. Membrey, and the local councils are to be congratulated on this happy outcome of their persistent efforts to have justice done to the district.

GARDEN FETE AT PRESTON.

The Preston Presbyterian garden fete was held on Saturday last in circumstances far from favorable for an out door function, yet, notwithstanding, it was very successful, the gross takings amounting to over £25.

The drive was tastefully decorated with flags and with the draped stalls placed here and there among the trees, presented quite a gay appearance. There was a very fair attendance when President Howe, who was accompanied by his wife and daughter, in an interesting and happy speech, declared the fete open. After a hearty vote of thanks to the president and to Mr. Stewart for the kind use of his ground, suitably responded to, the visitors proceeded to make their acquaintance with the stalls, which were most efficiently presided over by the following:—Drapery, Mesdames Froebel, Parker, and Jung; jumble—Mrs Officer and the young ladies of the Fellowship; Xmas tree—Mesdames McKenzie and Toll; lolly stall—Mesdames Carson and Yardley; refreshments—Mesdames Dalgliesh, Boyd, Gedders and the Misses Gemmel and Froebel; ice cream—Misses Thompson and E. Paterson, assisted by the young men. The Misses Stewart were untiring in their attention to everyone. The old but ever new Punch and Judy delighted the children, while the elders were entertained by two specially-fine professional singers, Miss Gravel and Mr O. Peacock, who sang to most appreciative audiences with excellent feeling and taste the solos, "To-Night," "If you ask me" and "Rose in the bud."

In the evening the weather was better, though cold, and the shelter of the pine trees was not unacceptable. The grounds were brilliantly illuminated by Mr. Bradt's acetylene storm torch of 1000 candle power, while the display of fairy lights was very effective. The Preston Orchestra gave some fine selections. The vocal part of the programme was in the hands of Mr. Booth, the church choir leader, and included Mr. G. Hamilton, Mrs. and Miss Zwar, with a quartet party from the choir. Every one seemed to enjoy themselves, and the opinion was expressed that if only the night had been more propitious the attendance would have been doubled, though, everything considered, the ladies have reason to be highly gratified with the result, and the board of management particularly pleased with the proceeds.

METAL FOR JESSIE AND OTHER STREETS.

To the Editor of the Leader.

Sir,—If your correspondent under the above heading in your last issue had been fully seized with the facts he would have spared himself the trouble of writing as he did, unless possessed with an ardent desire to misrepresent me to the public.

The facts simply are that in the first instance a portion of the stone in question was removed by the council's drays to the hired crusher whilst it was at work, but the council's officers having discontinued carting a quantity of inferior stone was then deposited on vacant allotments in the vicinity, where it still remains—a nuisance to the property-owners concerned, who will later on have to pay for its removal.

The *balance* of the stone, which was of little value, and certainly not worth sending a dray specially for (much less storing until a crusher is again hired or purchased) was left on the roadside for several days, and as a light had to be kept burning over it nightly, the gas employes asked our drivers when returning with empty drays to remove it, which they did.

I court the most exhaustive enquiry into the matter, being satisfied that the more light is shed upon it the more clearly will it be seen how paltry the charge of "Indignant Ratepayer" really is.

Seeing that the council, as well as both the ratepayers' associations of the south ward, have met since attention was drawn to the matter and have not taken any action, notwithstanding the earnest solicitation of your correspondent, I now challenge "Indignant Ratepayer" to himself convene a public meeting, and I will even go so far as to pay for the hire of a hall for the purpose provided I am afforded an opportunity of replying to anything your correspondent may have to say, and showing that notwithstanding his misrepresentations I have in no way acted incompetently with the policy advocated by me when seeking election.

If, however, your correspondent has not the courage to disclose his identity, but continues under the cover of a nom de plume to make charges which cannot be sustained, I shall treat his letters with the contempt that any fair-minded person must always have for anonymous correspondence.—Yours, etc.,
S. DENNIS.

Walker street, Northcote.
9th December, 1909.

To the Editor,

Sir,—It caused me much surprise to note that so much fuss has been made about a few loads of stone discarded by the officers of the council being, at the request of the officers of the Gas Company, removed from a position where it was dangerous to vehicular traffic. The attempt to make it appear that our worthy representative (Cr. Dennis) has been endeavouring to make personal gain at the expense of the ratepayers is unfair, for the reverse has been the case. As a matter of fact in connection with the metalling of Harper, Jessie, Bower, and Henderson streets, seeing that the blinding would under ordinary circumstances have to be carted from the northern part of the town at considerable expense, so anxious was Cr. Dennis to cause the metal to be spread over as wide an area as possible that he authorised the foreman of works to obtain all the blinding required from the quarries of Dennis Bros. *free of charge*, and at least one hundred loads were obtained free of cost to the municipality.

I can assure the writer of the letter in last Saturday's paper that there will be no indignation meeting in the south ward as long as Cr. Dennis continues to advocate the claims and protect the interests of the ratepayers as he has so far done.—Yours, &c.,
C. W. CRAIK.

12 Simpson street, Northcote.

Cycling on Footpaths.

COUNCILLORS COMPLAIN.

At the meeting of the Northcote Town Council on Monday evening, Cr. Harry moved that the attention of the police be called to the practice of cyclists riding on footpaths. Up his way it was a positive danger. The other day his wife was nearly knocked down as she was coming out of her gate, and he had himself been nearly knocked over.

Cr. Archbold, in seconding the motion, said he could bear out all Cr. Harry had said. In Darebin road he had seen six or eight cyclists take possession of the path, and some of them rode without lights at that.

The motion was carried.

NORTHCOTE'S FINANCES.

FURTHER LOAN CONTEMPLATED.

SCHEDULE TO BE CONSIDERED.

"Cr. Dennis, at the meeting of the Northcote town council on Monday evening, moved:

That this council take into consideration the advisability of floating a loan for drainage and other works, and the matter of preparing a schedule of such works be referred to a committee of the whole council."

Cr. Dennis said he moved this resolution feeling he would get the hearty co-operation of the whole council. In the south ward they had one very important work that required immediate attention. He referred to Green street drain. On the hustings he had pledged himself to get this provided for on the first available opportunity. There was no chance of getting it provided for on the estimates so he took this course. If they were to keep pace with the growth of the town it was absolutely necessary to float a loan for drainage, lighting and street construction. Every new lamp cost £7 a year, and seeing there was only about £600 each year to divide over the whole town for new works it was useless to expect even lighting to be attended to out of revenue. A new loan would help to keep the overdraft down, though, of course, they would have to provide the interest. They would have to face the drainage work at Heidelberg soon, and as it always took 8 or 9 months to get through the preliminaries in connection with a loan it was just as well to make a start.

Cr. Plant seconded the resolution, remarking that it was a "harmless sort of motion." Every councillor would have works to recommend.

Cr. Smith said it was very necessary to get some money from somewhere—even if they stole it. (Laughter). The town was growing so fast that they would have to get some money to catch up to it.

Cr. Tharratt thought Cr. Dennis's motion was a little premature. He (Cr. Tharratt) had only been in the council three years and he had seen its indebtedness increased by £15,000, and at present 6s 7d out of every pound of revenue goes in interest and sinking fund. They would have to go into the market shortly, but at the present moment they were not in a position to do it. Cr. Dennis might, perhaps, have left the matter in the hands of older councillors.

Cr. Archbold—One man.

Cr. Tharratt—Who?

Cr. Archbold—You know Cr. Plant told us he was getting ready to float his loan.

Cr. Tharratt—In the previous loans I had a hand and others had a hand.

Cr. Archbold said he thought now was the proper time to start making arrangements to float another loan. The Green street drain was a great source of trouble and had stood over for a long time, and could only be done by way of loan. They would also have to borrow for the drainage through Heidelbergshire.

Cr. Bainbridge seconded the motion. From the last loan schedule the south ward got cut out entirely, mostly through Cr. Plant's manœuvring. (Laughter) And he did say he was preparing the schedule for a further loan. (Laughter). They claimed the right to have some say and not Cr. Plant to have all the say. (Laughter). The people down south complain terribly about Green street drain; and High street was a disgrace—the channels should be lifted and put in decent order.

Cr. Mitchell said he would like to see Green street drain done and the town-hall built, but they had no right to float loans to construct streets and paths. In three years time it would be early enough to talk about floating another loan.

Cr. Woolhouse said when the town-hall was on the board they were rolling in thousands. (Laughter).

Cr. Plant—No one says you have not got them now.

Cr. Woolhouse—Let us borrow to finish off the streets done under the old policy. We will never do it out of revenue.

Cr. Bastings suggested that the wording of the resolution be altered to the effect that the question of floating a loan and the drawing up of a schedule be referred to the committee of the whole.

The mayor said that while he was satisfied that any amount of work wanted doing it would be a little premature to pass a motion of this character. They were committed to certain works and till they knew where they were they should not go in for another loan.

Cr. Harry supported the motion and congratulated Cr. Dennis on referring it to the committee of the whole, which was the proper place to draw up a schedule. If they were ever going to complete the streets done under the old policy they would have to get a stone-crusher. That was another matter they had to face. The council had already passed a resolution in favour of going in for a stone-crusher. There was in addition to the works already mentioned the drain in St. George's road which would have to be attended to. With him drainage works would have first claim for any loan schedule.

Cr. Williams said that while he agreed that it was necessary to have certain works done he thought the time for taking the matter into consideration was inopportune. Better let the whole matter stand over till they know what they will have to pay Heidelbergshire. Till they knew that it was a waste of time discussing items.

Cr. Lees said they would not be committing themselves to anything very definite by carrying this motion. He thought the matter should be referred to the committee of the whole.

Cr. Dennis, in reply, said the Heidelberg council were just now passing the final resolutions in connection with the drainage scheme and Northcote's contribution would be required in three or four moths time, so it was just as well to get on with the preliminaries.

The motion was then put and carried.

Property Sales.

Stott & Bastings will offer by auction this day 31 allotments in Bayview estate, Northcote. Plans at office.

Stott & Bastings will offer by auction on 18th Dec. d.f.w.b. villa, 7 rooms, Ballantyne street, Northcote.

Stott & Bastings, in conjunction with A. Robertson, will offer by auction on 18th Dec. d.f.w.b. villa, Milton st., also allotment, Gower street, Preston.

Ernest Lees will sell by auction on December 18, "Corkdale," a Queen Anne villa, 6 rooms, in Harold st., Northcote.

Croxton Park Sports.

The following are the results of last Saturday's racing:—

Sheffield handicap.—Placed men, 1st in each heat—L. Whelan, 14yds; T. Cochrane, 10yds; L. O. Thompson, 10yds; J. Hickson, 14yds; I. Dalgliesh, 10yds; J. Downs, 15yds; H. Hempenstall, 10yds; O. Ayton, 10yds.

Half-mile track race.—1st heat—J. Slattery 1, A. Roberts 2, J. McLennan 3. 2nd heat—T. Coughlan 1, E. Giddens 2, J. Tacey 3. 3rd heat—J. Clay 1, P. J. Slattery 2, J. Dunk 3. 4th heat—G. L. Chapman 1, W. Julson 2, H. Court 3. 5th heat—A. Phillips 1, E. Bainbridge 2, L. Wallace 3.

Dog race, whippets, fox, and Irish terriers. Barney 18½yds, Jean 23½yds, Scotland 17½yds, Ld Milton 3, Clara 0, Lord Nelson scr, Betty 18, Captain Cook 24.

The finals will be run to night.

TENNIS.

Benvenuta v. Thornbury, played last Saturday. Scores—

Messrs Ritchie and Pizzey beat Messrs Gillies and Horsley, 6—4, 6—4.

Messrs Pizzey and Archbold v Messrs Chirgwin and Mattimer, 6—3, 1—6.

Messrs Pizzey and Archbold beat Messrs Gillies and Horsley, 6—1, 6—2.

Messrs Ritchie and Pizzey beat Messrs Chirgwin and Mattimer, 6—2, 6—3.

Games—Benvenuta, 43; Thornbury, 25.

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266 SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD.

NORTHCOTE STATE SCHOOL.

A REFLECTION ON ITS EFFICIENCY.

RESENTED BY A MEMBER OF ITS STAFF.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION.

J. H. Brown, second assistant at Northcote State school, wrote to the Northcote town council as follows:—

In the *Leader* of November 27 Cr. Harry is reported to have stated at a council meeting "one reason why the scholars were leaving their district was because the teaching staffs were far superior to what they have in Northcote."

There is a deplorable tendency in Northcote to decry our own institutions, of which the above statement is an example, and in this case a most undeserved slur is cast, not only on the teachers of the school as a body, but on the many citizens of this town who have received their whole education at the school during the time some of the teachers, including myself, have been on the staff.

I do not know that Cr. Harry possesses any qualifications which enable him to speak with authority on educational matters, but a highly competent educational expert only last month inspected the school, spending over two weeks in it, and the following are extracts from his official report:—"The results show that the instruction has, on the whole, been sound. The class teachers have worked persistently and a creditable effort has been made to accomplish the programme. No class passed a poor examination. There are some very strong subjects in the school. The class arithmetic was exceptionally good in all classes. The discipline and the tone of the school are very good."

This, I think, is a sufficient answer to Cr. Harry's remark. No inferior school would get such a report. In regard to children leaving for other schools—probably the cause of Cr. Harry's remark—there is not a school in the metropolitan area which does not have the experience of children passing its doors to go to more distant schools. Scores do so to come to Northcote. At the present time children are attending the Northcote school whose parents reside at Brunswick, Carlton, North Fitzroy, Fairfield, Clifton Hill, Preston, and even beyond Epping. In all these cases there are good schools. One family some months ago removed from Northcote to Sandringham. The eldest boy has ever since travelled daily to Northcote to attend the school. Evidently his father does not agree with Cr. Harry. It frequently happens that after children have been removed to other schools their parents have cause to regret the removal and ask that they may be allowed to return. An instance of this occurred only three weeks ago.

During the present year no fewer than four of the teachers have been considered worthy of promotion, and promotion is based not on seniority but on ability.

As I have spent half my lifetime on the staff of the Northcote school I strongly resent Cr. Harry's remarks, and ask on behalf of my fellow teachers and myself that they be substantiated or withdrawn.

I may state in conclusion that until the new buildings were opened in September the work of the school had to be carried on under most unfavourable and unhealthy conditions; but I do not make this statement as an apology for the school. The school needs no apology.

Cr. Woolhouse in moving that the letter be received said he thought the teachers at the Northcote State school would bear favourable comparison with those in any part of the globe.

Cr. Plant moved that Cr. Harry's remarks do not express the opinion of the council. He (Cr. Plant) did not think a councillor had any right to draw comparisons as between teachers. They had to pass certain examinations, were under inspection, and were answerable only to the heads of their Department. Even if he thought it he would be sorry to say what Cr. Harry had said about a certain set of State school teachers.

Cr. Bastings seconded the motion. Cr. Woolhouse had tried to excuse Cr. Harry by saying his remarks were directed at the Prince of Wales' Park School, but if he (Cr. Bastings) remembered aright Cr. Harry said there was a better teaching staff at Fairfield. It was a pity such a statement should ever have been made publicly. He had got the best part of his own education at the Northcote State school, and a great deal of it under Mr. Brown himself. Cr. Tharratt was another old pupil of the Northcote State school, and if the education given at this school was to be judged by the success in life of many of its pupils it must have been very good indeed.

Cr. Smith said that 8 of his 9 children had got their schooling at Helen street and he did not see anything wrong with their education. All his family, he remembered, used to speak well of the teachers, and it was a pity that such a remark as Cr. Harry's should have been made publicly.

Cr. Tharratt said that when Cr. Harry made the remark several expressed disapproval. As Cr. Bastings had said he was a pupil of the Northcote school, and he could look round and see other pupils that he was proud of. Pupils were not only taught the "three R's" there but taught to be men and women. He did not approve of the system, but the staff had his admiration and approval.

Cr. Archbold, referring to the Prince of Wales Park school, said he had nothing to complain of so far as his children were concerned, either in the education given or the care and attention bestowed by the teachers; but one had to leave to go to a higher class at another school and they let the other go too to keep them together. The discipline outside the Prince of Wales' Park school was, however, not what it might be. That was why he had always fought for having a male head there.

Cr. Mitchell said he did not see why they should discuss the matter. It was only a personal matter between Cr. Harry and the teachers of the Northcote State school. All his (Cr. Mitchell's) boys had been educated at the Northcote State school and he had nothing to complain of. He really thought there were some tip-top teachers there. He lived in the same street as the school and could say also that the conduct of the children outside the school was good. If Mr. Brown had anything to complain of he should have done it through the Press, where Cr. Harry's remark appeared.

Cr. Harry said he did not wish to back down from what he had said. His remark was based on the statements made to him by several parents that their children got better education at the Fairfield or South Preston schools than they did at the Helen street school. He had heard several pass remarks, not exactly about the staff, but those in control. There were one or two teachers in the school he had great respect for and he believed they were real good teachers, so perhaps his remarks had been a little too general. But having made the remark on the grounds stated he did not wish to withdraw it. As far as any committees or others having got a good education there what had that got to do with it? They were not dealing with the school as it existed 20 or 30 years ago but to-day. He did not wish to say more. He thought enough time had been spent on the matter already.

Cr. Lees said that having had 25 years experience as a State school teacher perhaps he might claim to speak as an expert. He had seen the Northcote State school on many occasions and the whole of his children had attended it. There were four there now, and he was as near Fairfield as to Helen street. The reason why Fairfield is held up is because they have classes where they lay themselves out to get merit certificates and scholarships. This catches people who want their children pushed on. But he (Cr. Lees) did not believe in that. The system he believed in was not cramming, but letting the education they do get sink in. He had seen a lot of learned doodles in his time—people crammed with knowledge and good for nothing else. Cr. Harry gave his opinion and he had a perfect right to do so.

The mayor said Cr. Harry appeared a little grieved that he had allowed the discussion, but if any councillor makes a statement affecting a public man—and a teacher is a public man—he (the mayor) took it that he had a perfect right to defend himself in the place where the statement was made. (Hear, hear.)

Cr. Dennis said that as far as the teachers of the Northcote State school were concerned they were a very good staff, but there was a good deal of dissatisfaction in reference to the head teacher, and every councillor knew it. He (Cr. Dennis) said emphatically that a large proportion of the people were dissatisfied with the head teacher.

Cr. Woolhouse—I have never heard it.

Cr. Dennis—I have. He would add that it was the rule and not the exception for Northcote scholars to prefer to attend the Fairfield school.

Cr. Plant, in reply, said if councillors made remarks reflecting on individuals and they got into the Press it would be very hard if they were not allowed to pass their opinion on those remarks. As regards statements alleged to have been made by parents, Cr. Harry's remarks were directed against the general staff, not against one individual. Cr. Dennis picked out one, but Cr. Woolhouse, a member of the Board of Advice, says he has never heard a complaint against the head teacher.

The motion was then put and carried.

A division was called for. For—Crs. Plant, McIntosh, Smith, Lees, Tharratt, Woolhouse, Bastings, Hayes.

Against—Crs. Dennis, Harry, Archbold, Williams, Mitchell,

The HEIRESS of HILLDROP

By Bertha M. Clay.

CHAPTER IX.

"Constance," said Sir Cyril, turning to his daughter, "have you ready Lady Dresden's letter?"

"No, papa; I did not know she had written."

"I wish you to read it, as it concerns yourself. Never mind the flowers just now"—for her hands were filled with lilies and roses. "You want to paint a picture from them; I will paint one for you instead. Come and read this letter, and then picture yourself as the belle of the season."

"That I can never do," she answered with a smile. "The only season that interests me is the season of flowers."

"Read the letter, and you will see," said Sir Cyril.

Lady Dresden had been an old friend and school-fellow of the late Lady Laurayne's. She had loved her in life, lamented her in death, and she kept up a friendship and correspondence with Sir Cyril and Constance. Her great desire was to present Constance Laurayne at Court. She had been to Broome several times, and had been struck with the uncommon beauty and rare character of the heiress of Hilldrop; but she had found fault with her training.

"The girl is a dreamer," she said to Sir Cyril. "She will spend all her time reading poetry and dreaming amongst flowers, if you will allow it. She must come to London and make her debut. I will present her. Nothing will make me happier than to present Philippa's daughter. She has rare beauty and grace, and will make a sensation even amongst the London belles."

"I will talk to her," said Sir Cyril, resolutely.

"Talking is of no use; you must act," replied Lady Dresden, with a pitying smile.

But Constance was not to be persuaded.

"I am so happy at home, papa," she said, "and I have a curious feeling about going to town."

"What is it?" he asked.

"I cannot tell—a foreboding of evil. It seems to me that trouble will come of it."

"Why, Constance, how can trouble reach you? You are the object of our fondest love and care."

"I do not know, but I have that impression. I have always had it." And Constance sighed.

"It is all fancy and nonsense!" cried Lady Dresden, when Sir Cyril repeated the conversation to her. "If you are not careful, she will waste her life in dreams."

And now Lady Dresden had made another effort to induce Constance to come to London, urging that the season was at its height, and that a few weeks in town would be very pleasant.

"I think you must go, my dear," said Sir Cyril, watching the beautiful face bent over the letter.

"I do not want to go," his daughter answered; and there was a strange reluctance in her voice. "I should never be happy away from Broome and Hilldrop."

"I have never spoken very seriously to you about the matter," said Sir Cyril gently; "but, my dearest Constance, as heiress of Hilldrop, you have certain duties and responsibilities which you must not evade."

"I never will, papa," she replied, rising her large blue eyes to his.

"I think you had better do as Lady Dresden wishes. "Certainly your position almost obliges you to make your debut."

"If you think so, papa, I will go," she replied, with a faint sigh; "but I cannot resist this feeling of coming trouble."

"Constance," said Sir Cyril gravely, "do you not really care about seeing the world? Have you no ambition?"

"Not of that kind," she answered.

"Do you not care for any kind of gaiety—for balls or parties?"

"Not the least in the world, papa," she responded, with a bright smile.

"Then, my dear, in one sense it is almost useless for you to go to London," he said. "Now tell me, Constance, what you do really care for."

"I have a deep threefold love in my heart," she answered—"for my dear dead mother; for you, papa—that is the greatest of all; and lastly for Hilldrop."

"You must enlarge your world, Constance."

"My heart is full now," she answered; and her eyes were so sweet, her words so gentle, that Sir Cyril thought she looked angelic.

So it was settled that, under the auspices of Lady Dresden, she should make her debut in the world of fashion.

Lady Laurayne was pleased at this decision. Nothing would have delighted her more than to see Constance well and happily married. She talked to her before this journey to town more than she ever had—talked of London society and its ways.

"I shall be glad to know your ideas and impressions, Constance," said her ladyship. "You are so different from any girl I have ever met; the things which strike others and seem of importance to them are nothing to you, and that which you deem of importance to them are nothing to you, and that which you deem of importance is of little interest to anyone else. I should imagine that you will see the London world in quite an original light."

Constance could not help laughing at the idea.

The twin sisters felt envious when they heard that Constance was to be formally introduced into society, and complained bitterly.

"We ought to be presented, mamma," cried Blanche. "You blame us for not marrying; but what chance have we here? Why should Constance take precedence of us in every way?"

"I know," observed Edith. "It is because she is heiress of Hilldrop."

"The less you say on that point the better, Edith," remarked Lady Laurayne reprovingly.

"We might marry well if we had the chance of a London season," continued Blanche.

"You shall have it, my dears," Lady Laurayne assured her daughters. "I will ask Sir Cyril to take us all to town next year."

Little did her ladyship anticipate an event that the following year would bring forth.

Constance never forgot leaving home for what, with one exception, was an ill-omened journey. Sir Cyril would have accompanied his daughter had not some important country business prevented him from going. Sarah King, therefore, went with her; but she was not to remain in town, as Lady Dresden had engaged a smart Parisian maid for what she called the "London campaign."

"I am sorry I cannot accompany you, my darling," said Sir Cyril. "You must take good care of yourself, and Lord Dresden will meet you at Charing cross station."

"I wish you could have gone, papa," said Constance, wistfully; "I do not like leaving you."

"How I have spoiled you, my child!" laughed Sir Cyril.

She had said "good-bye" to Lady Laurayne and the sisters, who were ill-tempered that morning, and was standing with Sir Cyril on the lawn, waiting for the carriage.

"I shall see no place so beautiful as home," she said. "I think my greatest pleasure in London will be in counting the hours until I return, papa." Then she added, suddenly, "You will come to the station with me? I should like you to see me off."

She liked to remember afterwards how they had sat side by side, Sir Cyril holding her hand in his and bending over her with heartfelt affection shining in his eyes. They seemed more together during that brief drive than they had been since her mother's death.

"You will write often to me, Constance," said Sir Cyril, as he stood by the door of the railway carriage.

"I shall tell you everything, papa," she answered.

"You will send long letters in that case, my dear," he returned, laughingly.

"Oh, papa," she cried, with a wistful longing in her voice which pained him, "I would give anything if I were not going, if I might remain with you! I do not like leaving you."

Tears filled her blue eyes, and she liked to recall in the after-years how he had kissed them away with words of tender encouragement.

"Good-bye, my dear!" he said, as the whistle sounded.

"Papa," she cried hurriedly, leaning towards him, "be sure that you send for me if you want me, if you feel lonely, if you are not well, if you——" But her sentence was not completed, for the train began to move. "Good-bye, my best beloved!" she murmured; and she remembered the tender light on his face when he heard the words.

Soon she had passed out of his sight, and he returned to Broome.

Lady Dresden's delight in welcoming the beautiful daughter of her dead friend was extreme. Lord and Lady Dresden were a middle-aged couple without children, but fond of young people, and always intent upon their own happiness and that of others. Their town mansion was in Mayfair, and Dresden House was one of the most frequented and hospitable places in London.

His lordship's face brightened when he met Constance at the station.

"Laura will be pleased enough now," he said to himself. "She dearly loves a pretty girl to chaperone, and she has one this time."

Never was welcome warmer or truer, yet Constance was some few days before she felt at home. The change was so striking—it was like going into another world. The large roomy house, without any trace of antiquity, the modern furniture, the absence of everything that told of age, were all novel to her. She missed the deep shade of the great trees, the bloom and the scent of the flowers, and the song of the birds. Yet both host and hostess were so kind to her that it was impossible to be anything but happy.

Lady Dresden gave Constance a few days before launching her upon the sea of fashion. The necessary dresses, jewels, plumes, and other adjuncts had to be obtained, and this important work occupied some time.

"The heiress of Hilldrop," remarked Lady Dresden one morning, raising her eyes from a newspaper. "You see, my dear Constance, your name has preceded you. All the society journals have a paragraph about the heiress of Hilldrop."

And the only comfort that Constance found in all the fatiguing duties connected with her presentation was this—that she was in some measure paying due respect to Hilldrop.

CHAPTER X.

"A perfect success!" was Lady Dresden's delighted comment, as she sank back in her favorite easy chair. "Nothing could have been better. Everyone agrees that it was the best drawing-room of the season, and that you were the belle, Constance."

"Everyone is very kind," said the girl.

"What interested me most?" echoed quired Lady Dresden, who would have liked a little keener appreciation on the part of her protegee of all they had seen and heard.

"What interested me most?" echoed Constance dreamily. "I think, nay, I am sure, it was the face of the queen. I shall never forget it."

"But the dresses, the jewels—what did you think of them?" asked Lady Dresden.

"I did not pay much heed to them," Constance answered. "I have always longed to see the queen; and, now that I have seen her, I shall be the most devoted subject she has."

"I thought Her Majesty seemed pleased with you, Constance. I have introduced some beautiful girls at Court, but I think you will vie with the most charming. It will be your own fault now, my dear, if you do not sail smoothly with the fashionable tide. You have an attractive face, and the world has recognised it and raves about it." Then her ladyship asked, somewhat abruptly: "What are you thinking of, Constance?"

"I was thinking of the Queen," she replied. "What a brilliant yet lonely lot!"

"Let us be cheerful, my dear," said Lady Dresden, who had no taste for anything serious. "See how differently things impress us according to our temperament. We have both been to the same drawing-room. I came away with my mind full of jewels and plumes and dresses; you came away with a remembrance of the Queen's face, because you thought it sorrowful." Her ladyship was silent for a few moments; then she said, "You may prepare for an avalanche of invitations, Constance. You will certainly be the belle of the season; and the world of fashion will not be slow to do homage to the beautiful heiress of Hilldrop."

Lady Dresden's prediction was fulfilled. The fair, spiritual beauty of Constance Laurayne charmed all with whom she came in contact; and, when it was found that her character harmonised with her appearance, that her mind was as brilliant as her face was beautiful, that she had the lofty ideas of a cultivated woman combined with the sweet simplicity of a child, she was universally admired.

The heiress of Hilldrop was invited everywhere. She was the fashion. Did she care for it? Did the excitement and novelty of the new life fill her heart as the old one had done? Ah, no! She told her father, when she wrote to him, that she preferred her flowers and the home-life.

But a change was coming. She awoke one morning with a pre-vision of it—a pre-vision of something unusual. All day long she was in some measure prepared for a surprise; but none came. All day long a feeling of restlessness possessed her, mingled with one of happiness greater than she had ever known before. The routine of the day, however, had in it no variation; there was luncheon, a ride in the Row, and dinner, after which there was a ball at the Duchess of Miniver's.

"Always the best ball in London!" was the comment of Lady Dresden, when she received the invitation card. "You must go there, Constance. The duchess has the finest ballroom in town, and the company is always select"

Constance did not accept all the invitations showered upon her. She wondered much in after-life if her fate would have been different had she declined this one.

Lady Dresden was very particular as to Constance's toilet on this occasion.

"Being fair," she said, "you must be careful to wear nothing but pale blue with pearls. You will be the belle of the ball, Constance."

"You are too sanguine, Lady Dresden," she returned, with a laugh.

"Not unreasonably so, my dear. You have already some of the best men in London at your feet. If you would come down from your pedestal, if you would be less of a goddess and more of a woman, you could marry whom you would. But, you see, my dear, you make all the men afraid of you. You have a fashion of looking over their heads which does not exactly please them. A man likes to think that he is being admired, and looked up to."

"I am not conscious of looking over their heads," returned Constance, with a smile.

"I do not think you are, my dear. I was watching you the other evening when the Duke of Oatlands was talking to you; you did not seem to be aware that he was paying you a great compliment."

"I certainly did not know it," said Constance.

"Everyone else did, my dear." Lady Dresden laughed. "At the present moment the Duke of Oatlands is the best match in England. He seldom pays any attention to young girls, and I am sure he has never paid so much to anyone as he did that evening to you."

"I did not notice it."

"No, my dear—that is the one thing I wish to impress upon you. You do not notice such things; you seem to live in the world as though you did not belong to it. The duke was doing his best to be agreeable, yet you looked at him with cool, calm unconcern; and he might have been a thousand miles away, I believe, for all that you saw or heard of him. If he should be at the ball to-night, do not be quite so indifferent. There is not a girl in London who would not give much to be Duchess of Oatlands."

"Yes, there is one," said Constance.

"Who is it?" asked Lady Dresden, looking up.

"Myself," answered Constance. "I would not be Duchess of Oatlands."

"Why not?" inquired Lady Dresden, in surprise.

"Because the duke is not at all the kind of a man I could ever love," was the decided reply.

"I should like to have some notion of what your ideal husband is like," said Lady Dresden, with some amusement, yet with a longing to fathom the thoughts of this girl who was so unlike all others.

"I have never formed an idea," she replied. "I am not a hero-worshipper, and I have thought very little of marriage or husbands."

"Yet they are the two principal things to be considered in a woman's life," said Lady Dresden seriously.

"So my step-sisters Blanche and Edith think," remarked Constance.

"So most women think," rejoined Lady Dresden. "Now tell me what you would like your husband to be."

"I should never marry for money or rank. If I marry at all, it will be someone whom I have learned to love with all my heart."

"Now," said Lady Dresden, "tell me what kind of a man it would be whom you could love with all your heart."

"I do not know," responded Constance, with some hesitation.

"Have you seen anyone whom you could like?" asked her ladyship.

Constance looked at her thoughtfully.

"No," she replied. "I begin to think that my life has not been quite like that of other girls. I have been too self-contained; I have thought too much of my own pursuits and studies, I think. I cannot help feeling that, if my mother had lived, I should have been different. When very young, I learned the difficult art of keeping my thoughts to myself."

"That is true," said Lady Dresden softly. "The girl who loses her mother loses almost everything. No one in the world can make up for the loss. All I can say, my dear, is this—that I fervently hope you may meet with a good husband, one who will love you well, one whom you may love."

Constance smiled as she kissed her.

"You are very good to me, dear Lady Dresden," she said.

"I am greatly interested in you," replied her friend; and then, with a frank smile, her ladyship added, "and I am curious also—very curious—to know what manner of man you will fall in love with and marry."

CHAPTER XI.

Captain Lancelot Dysart was one of the most fortunate, yet, in some respects, one of the most unfortunate, officers in that well-known regiment, the White Lancers. He was fortunate, because in all England it would have been difficult to find a handsomer man. When he joined the White Lancers, his fellow-officers gave him the name of "Beauty"; but he would not have it, and intimated so clearly to them what would be the fate of any man who dared to address him by that title that it was soon dropped. He was unfortunate, because, being what he was, the favorite of his regiment, holding a high position in society, and living in one of the most expensive "sets," he was entirely dependent on his father for every penny that he received, except his regimental pay.

Sir Thomas Dysart was inordinately proud of his son. He made him a liberal allowance; but Captain Lancelot knew that unless he complied in every respect with his father's wishes, his income might at any moment be stopped. Up to the present time there had been no disagreement between them. Sir Thomas was quite the opposite of his son. The father was as mean, cowardly, and ungenerous as the son was ingenuous, frank and liberal. The old baronet had married early in life a beautiful fair-haired girl, from whom his son inherited his great personal attractions, and he had slowly but surely broken her heart. It took him but four years to do it, and she died most thankful at being rid of the burden of living.

He had tyrannised over her until life had grown hateful to her. A spirited woman would not have borne his cruelty—would doubtless have left him; but Lady Dysart was all tenderness and sweetness. At first she was too astonished to protest; then as every fresh instance of tyranny she went bitterly; and finally she subsided into the helpless state of silent despair in which she died. It was not that the baronet disliked his wife; he was really rather fond of her—but it was his way. He was a tyrant by nature, and he never attempted to restrain or control his outbursts of temper. He was generally disliked. His servants, the tenants on his estates, his neighbors, and what he called his friends, all resented and rebelled against his tyrannical spirit. The only person to whom he had never shown it was his son Lancelot. His whole heart was set on the fair-haired, handsome lad who was so different in disposition from himself. He indulged his every whim and caprice; he gave him his choice of a profession; and, when the young man, with a flush on his face and a sparkle in his eyes, declared he would rather be a soldier than anything else in the world, he was trained accordingly, and finally he gained a captaincy in the famous White Lancers.

The only thing over which the baronet intended to exercise his control was his son's marriage. He had never yet opposed or thwarted any wish of Lancelot's, but he intended to have a voice in that matter. His son—one day to be Sir Lancelot Dysart, master of Deene—must marry someone who would be a credit and an honor to the family—a peer's daughter, or a great heiress; he would have to be one of the two. Little had been said between them on the subject; but Sir Thomas had given his son plainly to understand that, proud as he was of him, much as he loved him, he should disinherit him if ever he married against his wishes.

Captain Lancelot merely laughed.

"I shall not think of marrying for many years yet," he said. "I must win my spurs first."

And Sir Thomas was pleased to hear it. The baronet spent most of his time at Deene, his country seat, where his chief pleasure and pride consisted in reading of the social triumphs of his son. At times Captain Lancelot would run down to Deene, to spend a few days with his father, but he was generally glad to get away again.

The captain, though a prominent figure in London society, was no carpet knight. He was welcomed everywhere with open arms, for no one could tell a better story, sing a better song, or make himself more generally attractive than Captain Dysart. The fact that he was somewhat proud, and quickly resented any attempt at undue familiarity, did not make people like him the less.

"Are you going to the Duchess of Miniver's ball, Lance?" asked his friend, Captain Clinton.

Lancelot looked up from his paper.

"What—to-night? I had forgotten it. I must go; I promised."

"I am going," Captain Clinton went on. "I am told that some of the prettiest girls in town will be there."

But Captain Dysart did not look as though that were any inducement to him to go.

"There is a new beauty about whom everyone is raving, and she will be there," said Captain Clinton.

"I do not care about new beauties," answered Captain Dysart. "I prefer one on whom society has passed an opinion."

"Society has passed a very decided opinion on the heiress of Hilldrop," rejoined his friend.

"And what may that opinion be?" asked Captain Dysart.

"Why, that she is the most beautiful and the most uncommon girl society has seen lately. Uncommon, mind you, Lance; that means a great deal."

"It certainly does," assented the young man. "But in what way is she uncommon?"

"She has original ideas, and is not afraid of expressing them. Then her face is as lovely as a June rose."

Captain Dysart looked up with a smile.

"You seem to be very much interested in her," he said.

"I am. I met her at Lady Hilton's on Friday, and I was never so charmed with anyone. But"—and Captain Clinton sighed—"I might just as well admire and long for the Koh-i-noor! She is the heiress of Hilldrop, and I am heir to nothing at all."

"Heiress of Hilldrop!" repeated Captain Dysart. "Where is Hilldrop?"

Captain Clinton told him, and Lancelot listened thoughtfully.

"This has been quite a season for heiresses," he said, after a time. "Beauty and wealth combined are irresistible. I should like to see this girl who has impressed you so deeply."

"You can see her to-night at Miniver House," said Captain Clinton.

"Then to Miniver House I go," declared Lancelot. "I should like to see the face which has aroused your enthusiasm."

He was not anxious to see this girl because she was an heiress, but simply in consequence of what his friend had said of her. He had seen beauties without number, but there was evidently something unusual about this one whose face had reminded Clinton of a sweet June rose.

All that day he thought much of his friend's words. He had not asked the name of this girl; he knew her only as "heiress of Hilldrop." He had made no inquiries about her family or connections; such things did not interest him just then. He thought only how pleasant it would be to meet a fair young girl who had not only beauty, but originality. His heart was light and his step buoyant when he set out for Miniver House.

* * * * *

Constance went to the Duchess of Miniver's entertainment. She was, as Lady Dresden had predicted she would be, the belle of the ball. Her toilette of blue suited her fair, delicate loveliness to perfection. She stood for a few minutes under the central chandelier talking to the young Duke of Oatlands. She was quite unconscious of the many admiring glances cast upon her, and she did not seem to realise how radiantly beautiful she was. Half the girls in the room were eyeing her jealously, but she did not seem to think that her position was one to be coveted, or that the great attention paid to her by the duke was anything uncommon. He had taken her bouquet and was critically examining the white blossoms.

"I know you like flowers," he was saying. "I can tell from your face that you have a passion for them."

She looked at him with laughing eyes.

"I had no idea that my face told so much," she responded.

"It tells me too that you love music and poetry, and everything that is beautiful."

"It tells the truth," she replied briefly.

It was just at that moment that Captain Dysart, crossing the ballroom, saw her. He stopped abruptly, amazed and slightly confused. He had never seen so lovely a girl or one so serenely unconscious of her loveliness. He went up to Sir Antony Bedale, who had the reputation of knowing everybody in society.

"Who is that talking to the Duke of Oatlands?" he asked, eagerly.

"That lady?" said Sir Antony. "I have been asked the same question fifty times this evening already. That is the heiress of Hilldrop. She seems better known in society by that name than by any other."

"The heiress of Hilldrop," murmured Captain Dysart; and then his conversation with Captain Clinton recurred to his mind. "What is her name?"

"Constance Laurayne; she is the daughter of Sir Cyril Laurayne of Broome."

The young man inadvertently repeated the words "Constance Laurayne" as he had repeated the others.

So this was the girl whose face had reminded Captain Clinton of a June rose. He was right; she was indeed lovely. As he looked at her, his heart, which had never yet been stirred by a woman, thrilled strangely. Fascinated by that peerless face, he stood for some moments riveted to the spot. Then suddenly he roused himself.

"I will go to the fountain-head," he decided; and he went straight to the Duchess of Miniver.

"Will your grace do me a favor that will make me the happiest of men?" he said.

He was a great favorite with her grace of Miniver, and she replied smilingly that she would be pleased to make him happy.

"You look very much in earnest about something, Captain Dysart," she added. "What is it?"

"Will you introduce me to Miss Laurayne?" he said.

"Certainly," she answered. "It is of no use saying 'Beware!' I presume?"

"Of no use at all," rejoined Captain Dysart.

"We must wait until the duke has finished paying his devoirs. It will not do to interrupt his flow of eloquence. Ah, he has left her!" said the Duchess, as the Duke of Oatlands moved away. "Now see the little army of admirers that take his place!"

"I will find a place amongst them," said Captain Dysart.

"The difficulty is not in finding a place, but in keeping it," laughed her grace. "Now, don triple armor, Captain Dysart, for you are going to look into the most beautiful face I have ever seen. Miss Laurayne, allow me to introduce Captain Dysart to you."

And Constance looked up to see a noble-looking man bending before her. Many proud heads had been bent before her that evening, many a handsome face had flushed with delight at a few gracious words from her; but this was quite a different matter.

The duchess passed on with a smile. She knew perfectly well that Captain Dysart had forgotten everything in the world except the beautiful face and figure before him.

"They all go the same way," thought the duchess. "There are fifty young men in the room in love with her, yet only one will win her. For his own sake, I hope it will be Captain Dysart. He would be my favorite."

Captain Dysart made the most of his few minutes. He asked Miss Laurayne for a waltz, and she promised him one. He looked into her eyes, and said to himself that the heavens were not so blue. He looked at the pearls she wore, and thought they were not so white as the beautiful neck they clasped. Then he asked her if she would like to go through the conservatory, as the room was warm, and she answered "Yes."

He could hardly believe in his good fortune when she laid her white-gloved hand on his arm and walked down the room with him. He had a strange feeling that he would awake and find it all a dream. Then, again, it seemed as though his past life had all been a dream, and this was reality to which he was awakening.

As they stood in the conservatory the soft sweet notes of Strauss' latest waltz came floating in to them over the flowers.

"Would you—do you care for dancing?" he asked, with an admiring glance, "or would you prefer to remain here?"

"I like this better," she answered, with sweet candor; and he obtained a seat for her.

"Do you like chrysanthemums?" he said, feeling that flowers would be a topic that would interest her. "I was struck with the rare beauty of some white ones that I saw last autumn. Do you admire them?"

"Yes," she answered, brightly; "they are my favorite flowers."

"I had always thought of chrysanthemums as belonging to a very respectable but rather dowdy family," he continued. "I always pictured them to myself as being a shabby purple or a faded yellow. But last year I was visiting where the people were flower-worshippers, and I was surprised at the beauty of the white chrysanthemums. I think chrysanthemums are rather neglected."

"Not by true lovers of flowers," she answered. "We have them of almost every shade at Broome."

"What a pretty name—'Broome'! My father's place is called 'Deene.' I like 'Broome' much better."

She gave him a description of her home, and told him why it was called "Broome." He listened with rapt attention. If only time would not pass so quickly! The golden moments were flying, and he could not sit there with her much longer. The glass doors at the end of the conservatory were wide open, and the moon shone brightly on the lawn. He looked out at the moonlight and back at the brilliantly-lighted ballroom. He took courage.

"This is just such a night as one reads in the 'Merchant of Venice,' Miss Laurayne, may I venture to ask you if you would care for a stroll across the lawn?"

"There is nothing I should like better," she replied, with sudden animation.

They left the conservatory and went out.

Her face, as he saw it in the moonlight, looked paler, but exquisitely beautiful. She raised it to the dark skies, watching the rising moon. A sigh of deep content came from her lips, and he drew nearer to her.

"If ever I give a fete," he said, "it shall be a moonlit one."

"I should like to be present at it," she returned, with a smile. "Moonlight has a great charm for me."

"I should not give it unless you promised to be there," he said; and the passion in his voice startled her.

They passed many happy hours together later on, but he felt there was never one so wholly sweet as this.

When Lady Dresden's carriage was announced, it was Captain Dysart who folded the warm wrap round Miss Laurayne's white shoulders, to the disgust of a score of ardent admirers, and it was he who received the thanks that shone in the heiress' beautiful eyes. To use the expression of his friend, Captain Clinton, he went home that night "a lost man."

(To be continued.)

AS YOU GO THROUGH LIFE.

Don't look for the flaws as you go through life;
And even when you find them
It is wise and kind to be somewhat blind,
And look for the virtue behind them,
For the cloudiest night has a hint of light
Somewhere in its shadow hiding;
It is better by far to look for a star
Than the spots on the sun abiding.

The current of life runs ever away
To the bosom of God's great ocean;
Don't set your face against the river's course
And think to alter its motion.
Don't waste a curse on the universe,
Remember it lived before you;
Don't butt at the storm with your puny form,
But bend and let it go o'er you.

The world will never adjust itself
To suit your whims to the letter;
Some things go wrong your whole life long,
And the sooner you know it the better.
It is folly to fight with the infinite,
And go under at last in the wrestle;
The wiser man shapes into God's good plan
As the water shapes into a vessel.

GOOD MOTTO.

More than one boy has made his way at the start by the exhibition of a bright mind and a sturdy purpose. There was the case, for instance, of a boy whom we will call Martin Flint.

Martin, thrown on his own resources at the age of fourteen, went around a big city looking for work. Nobody seemed to have any for him, but the oftener he was rebuffed the more confident and high-spirited he seemed to become. There is nothing like a good big obstacle or bafflement to call out the healthy snap in some natures.

By-and-by Martin came to a merchant's door which had simply the word "Push" on it; so he pushed the door and went in, his hat in his hand. An elderly man in spectacles sat at a desk.

"Well, boy, what do you want?" asked the merchant.

"Work, sir," said Martin.

"What kind of work?"

"Any kind of work, sir."

"Well," said the merchant, laughing, "you've got a large specialty. What's your motto?"

"Same as yours, sir," said Martin.

"Same as mine! How do you know what my motto is?"

"You've got it on your door—it's 'Push,' sir."

The merchant put him to work on the spot, and it was the beginning of a very successful business career.

According to the fire insurance man, Mr. Ikey's house was in imminent danger nightly of being burned down. A glowing pipe-ash, carelessly emptied into the waste-paper basket—a sudden flame—cries—a burning house—futile firemen—homelessness—poverty—destitution.

"There is no doubt about it, Mr. Ikey," continued the inspector, "if you have the business eye you will insure immediately."

Ikey considered. "Suppose I get burnt down in three months' time, how much will I get then?"

"The full amount of the policy," returned the insurance man.

Ikey's eyes glistened.

"Suppoth I get burnt down in one month's time, how muth then?"

"Well, I cannot exactly say, Mr. Ikey," was the answer; "probably about five years."

AGRICULTURE.

SKILL AND SYSTEM IN FARMING.

In no business are skill and system more necessary than in farming, and all who are conversant with the subject must admit that, in Australia, these are especially necessary. The climate is so uncertain, and the conditions vary so considerably in localities, that keen perception and sound judgment are of even greater value to the Australian landholder than they are to farmers in other countries. Notwithstanding, however, the necessity for extra carefulness, it is a fact (writes the editor of the "Farm and Home") that throughout the Australian States farming is carried on, in many instances, in a rather careless manner. A certain percentage of our farmers, unfortunately, appear to have no clear and definite ideas as to the advantage of a mixed system of cultivation and other matters of importance, and in far too many cases operations are carried on in a careless, haphazard manner.

This state of affairs is to be greatly regretted. A consistent and commonsense system of management is as much required in farming as for any other industrial occupation. In Great Britain and other European countries the main principles of agriculture are generally understood by cultivators; but in this part of the world a large proportion of our farming population have never been properly trained to the business, which in a great measure accounts for the existing state of affairs. Though the circumstances of Australian cultivators may differ to a great extent from those of European farmers, there is no reason why they should not carry on their operations upon a sound basis.

In the countries of the old world extended experiences have led up to certain clearly-defined lines in practice, and in every locality a well-tried system of agriculture is in force, which is calculated to give the most favorable results. There are certain definite principles which have a general application, and must underlie all rational systems of farming, though it will sometimes be necessary to modify them more or less according to local requirements. It is impossible to lay down any system in detail that will apply to all cases, as much will depend upon soil and climate, and the crops that are required. The only thoroughly sound basis is a due regard to the generally recognised principles of agriculture, combined with the best of experience.

There can be no question but that, as a general rule, farmers' profits would be far greater if they would only adopt a common-sense system of management, under which their land could be made more productive, and at the same time retain its fertility for future requirements. In this part of the world the cheapness of virgin land, and the facilities for obtaining it, has had much to do with the wasteful system of farming that was so generally practised in the days of free selection. Our pioneer settlers always adopted the plan of growing some particular crop continuously, for which a ready market could be obtained, and as a matter of course under such a system the land soon became impoverished. The practice adopted by our first settlers has, to a great extent, been followed by the greater number of those who came after, to their great disadvantage.

Though those who take up virgin land may for two or three years draw freely upon the accumulated richness of the soil without causing any serious deterioration, yet common-sense farmers will not think of continuing the practice for any length of time. After three or four years of cultivation, the condition of new land is materially altered, and exhaustion must ensue if the soil-robbing system is persisted in. Instead of blindly following the lines that may have proved fairly successful in the early days of settlement, farmers, by the exercise of a little judgment, should learn to adapt their practice to circumstances. Though arbitrary systems of management may be sometimes successful, they cannot be depended upon, and those farmers will be in the soundest position whose practice is in accordance with the recognised principles of agriculture, modified by local experience. The farm should be regarded as a manufactory of certain articles, to produce which various materials have to be utilised with judgment and economy. In fact, commonsense must be brought to bear upon every operation connected with the farm.

The farmer, in determining his practice, should endeavour to adopt a system that is likely to prove suitable to local circumstances, and these often vary considerably. The aim of the farmer should be to obtain the best possible return from his land without allowing it to deteriorate, and at the same time get all necessary work done as economically as possible. In a sound system of farming the essentials are thorough tillage, clean cultivation, and the arrangement of the crops in such a manner that the drain upon the land will not be so excessive as to cause its exhaustion. The use of artificial fertilisers, and the periodic fallowing in regular rotation, will also claim close attention. The proportion of land on a farm that can be cultivated with advantage will depend to a great extent on local conditions.

In deciding what crops to grow, and their proportions, the cultivator must be guided to a great extent by the nature of the climate and soil, the demand for each particular kind of produce, and the requirements for home consumption.

Another subject of great importance to the farmer is the careful management of live stock. It is also a matter of the highest importance to make due provision for an ample supply of food for live stock at all times, instead of leaving them entirely to the mercy of the seasons, as is too frequently the case. It is impossible for animals to thrive well, no matter how excellent their breeding may be, if they do not get a good and regular supply of food. With good management there need be no great difficulty in growing, on most farms, an ample supply of fodder for stock in times of scarcity.

Due attention to the foregoing conditions constitutes skill and system in farming, which is just as easy to practise as the other way, while the results will certainly be more satisfactory.

SO THE TALE IS TOLD.

Two, drifting on a summer tide,
With Hope for pilot, Love for guide—
A little touch of hand in hand,
The silence lovers understand.
A little sigh, a sky of gold—
A vow to be for ever one,
Till all the days of life are done—
And so the tale of love is told!

Two, parting in a firelit room,
A sound of weeping in the gloom;
A bitter cry, a long embrace,
The vision of a vacant place.
A sword clasped on by fingers cold—
The echo of the clash of strife—
A last farewell, "Good-bye, sweet wife!"
And so the tale of tears is told.

One left to live the empty years,
With none to dry her bitter tears;
A mute face turning to the wall,
And one who fell as heroes fall!
A voice—strong arms that round her fold,
"Tis he! And Heav'nward wings her prayer—
"Thank God, who taketh, yet doth spare!"
And so the tale of life is told!

THE HOME CIRCLE.

OLD HEADS ON YOUNG SHOULDERS.

I heard dear granny say to-day,
What sounded very queer;
"We must not try to put old heads
Upon young shoulders, dear!"
It was to mother that she spoke,
In such a funny way,
And mother only sighed and smiled,
And bade me run and play!

But when I came to think of it,
I thought how very strange
We children all of us would look
If we could make the change.
Suppose I had dear granny's head,
Her cap and soft white hair,
Upon my shoulders fixed—my word,
How all the folks would stare!

I almost think 't would even be
Yet still more queerly mixed,
If granny had my curly pate
Upon her shoulders fixed!
How funny both of us would look!
We shouldn't like it, though;
And so I'm glad they can't attempt
To make the change, you know!

CHILDLESS MOTHERHOOD.

The wife who has passed her many years of married life in childless motherhood has lost from out that life a greatness and pleasure that she may not have realised at first, but that is brought home to her with redoubled force and meaning when she has passed the zenith of youth and is coming to understand that life is not perpetual youth.

Keen anxiety and sorrow she may have missed, also. Yet it is also true that "it were better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all." The childless mother has not known the depths of degradation to which a child can bring its parents, nor yet has she known the most exquisite love and bliss.

The mother love is an elemental part of a true and womanly character, and that it is a part of her intended nature is abundantly proved. The woman who openly declares herself to have never felt the tender, uplifting sentiment of such love, as that moment admits herself lacking in many a womanly quality of heart and being. Her heart is not the tender, sympathetic organ that every woman's heart is supposed to be.

SOME MATRIMONIAL DON'TS.

Don't marry to reform a man. If he doesn't reform before marriage it will be little short of a miracle if he does so afterwards. The proof of a man's love should be his reformation, and the girl who marries a man who is still engaged in sowing "wild oats" earns the punishment that is sure to be hers.

Don't marry a man out of pity, or out of mistaken sympathy. Pity may be akin to, but certainly is not, love—nor is sympathy. Neither sentiment is a sufficient foundation for matrimony.

Don't marry a man only because he is affectionate. A good head is as necessary as a good heart, and protestations of devotion never yet paid a butcher's bill.

Don't marry a man because of his good looks. It would be equally sensible to marry him because his clothes are well chosen and well fitting.

Don't marry a man because he threatens to go to the bad if you don't. If he be so foolish and weak as to go to the bad because he cannot have his way, he will be likely to do the same if you grant it him.

Don't marry to spite another man. Remember that by doing so you will certainly punish yourself, and very likely two other people.

Above all, don't marry just because you are afraid that if you refuse this offer you may not have another. Remember that often "old maids" are far happier than their married sisters, and they are nowise behind them in having opportunities for usefulness.

MONEY VALUE OF YOUR WIFE.

Is it not in one of Tennyson's poems that we read of someone who liked his wife a little more than his dog and a little less than his horse? We have passed that stage at the present time, yet it is still a fact that many men are apt to lay too much stress on the fact that the prospective bride has "no money of her own." They must, so they appear to think, give up a goodly portion of their own earnings to maintain a wife, and they hesitate, regarding it as somewhat unfair. Such reasoning is unwise; it is also incorrect, as will be shown.

The use of the word "earnings" is in itself an answer to such arguments; the intending husband most probably has very little actual money himself, and is, therefore, not much better off than his future wife. He is trading on his ability to earn. Now, a woman can assist a man to gain a good living by her knowledge of human nature and her natural intuition. In that way her money value is as great to him as his ability to earn is to her, apart altogether from the work she does in the house, for which he would have to pay somebody if he remained single. A woman's intuition will often enable her husband to take advantage of a chance that seems remote, and, on the other hand, prevent him from entering into a bad undertaking.

An instance of a wife saving a husband from a detrimental enterprise may be given from the writer's experience. He had entered into negotiations with two men for starting a certain undertaking; just as negotiations were about to be completed, his wife urged him not to do it. "Break it off!" she urged, earnestly. "I have listened to what you have told me, and I have just caught a brief view of your partners; one is an idler and the other will prove a thorough rascal, and you will find yourself saddled with a heavy burden. If the enterprise succeeds, which I doubt, you will be robbed in some way; if it fails, they will leave you in the lurch!" After some discussion he yielded. Within three months one of the men fled the country, while the second proved himself a good-for-nothing tool of the other.

There is nthing really extraordinary in the foregoing; it is merely a matter of developing the attributes with which women are naturally gifted. Many volumes might be written of the ways in which wives have aided their husbands by their intuition, their knowledge of humanity. Has not such a woman a considerable money value? Here, too, is a hint for the young woman: By cultivating the inborn gift of observation, she will not only learn how to choose a husband, but she will be of material assistance to him in the struggle for a position in life. She will perceive what he will overlook while he is trying to reason it all out logically. She can augment her worth as a wife from every standpoint.

A CURIOUS SENSE THAT PLANTS HAVE.

Mr. Francis Darwin, speaking before the members of the British Association, said that a pine-tree grows straight upward because it possesses a sense of gravitation. A plant which grows in a curve in order to assume the position best suited to its needs also exhibits a perception of gravitation. Some flower-stalks are very curiously guided by this sense. The common narcissus is an example. At first there is a straight shaft piercing the ground with its compact pointed flower-bud. But as the flower opens the stalk bends close to the top and brings the flower-tube into a roughly horizontal position, where it shows off its brightly-colored crown to the insects that visit it. The flowers are guided to the right position by the sense of gravitation, and they increase or diminish the angular bend in their stalk till the right position is attained.

THE MAN WITH THE GOOD NAME.

A Laughable Story by Tom Gallon.

I think it is Cervantes who says, "A good name is better than riches"; but I think it is probable that if Cervantes had lived in the twentieth century he might have formed a different opinion. He would certainly had he

THE STRANGER.

By C. Randolph Lichfield.

There's that man again. Well!" Jessie was standing at the long, low window, looking out across the garden through the gathering darkness towards the quiet country road. She turned her pretty face over her shoulder as she spoke, and glanced out of the corner of her eye at her husband, who sat at the table going through the accounts of his transactions at the neighboring market that day.

"What man's that?" he inquired abstractedly, and piled a handful of sovereigns into a column.

"That old man with the grey beard," she returned, and looked out of the window again at the figure of the retreating stranger. "He seems so interested in this place; I can't make it out. I've wondered whether he lived here once."

"His name's Simpson," said Hendrake, writing some figures in his cash-book. "He went to market to-day, but why, I couldn't tell you; he seemed to be hanging about after me most of his time in fact, he dogged my footsteps so persistently that I began to wonder whether he was a detective in disguise who had got hold of the idea that I wasn't all I ought to be."

"Nor are you," she retorted, laughing. She turned and came across the room to his side, and ruffled his sandy-colored hair. "You ought to be a rich man, for one thing."

"Well," he said seriously, "I'm doing very well, Jess; I've done astonishly well since you came to be a mascot to me."

"I'm so glad, dear," she murmured, and kissed him on the head impulsively. "But"—she turned away slowly, and taking up the poker stirred the fire—"it's funny about that man, Will. Don't you think so? What is there about the farm or me to excite so much interest in a stranger?"

"It's a bit odd," he replied, rising and turning towards the fire. "I asked Collins who he was—he's putting up at Collins's, you know—but all he could tell me was that his name's Simpson, and he's a stranger. He came down last Tuesday and took the two best rooms at the 'Wheatsheaf,' saying he wanted a holiday. Comfortably off, Collins thinks. The strange thing is that he hadn't been at the inn an hour before he 'quired for people of the name of Hendrake."

"Inquired for us?" said Jessie, astonished.

"Yes; and he left the inn, as Collins thought, to come and see us, but, of course, we know he didn't come, and he told Collins afterwards that he had no friends in the neighborhood. The only thing I can think of is that he is a relative of your father's or mother's, and has heard somehow that you have become a Hendrake."

"But father has been dead fifteen years now, and his friends or relatives would have forgotten my existence long ago, or have come forward sooner," answered Jessie. "The same might be said of mother's friends.

"Then," he argued thoughtfully, "if he had been an old friend, sufficiently interested to come to a strange village to stay at this time of year, you'd have thought he would have called and introduced himself or something."

She was silent for some moments, and he took out his pipe and filled it slowly.

"You might go to the 'Wheatsheaf' for a little while this evening, Will," she said at length. "Probably he frequents the public rooms of an evening for the sake of company, and you might find something out like that."

"Is it worth while?" he inquired.

"Yes," she returned. "It's silly of me, I know; but—well, you understand. Little things—little mysteries tease one so, don't they?"

"All right; I will," he answered.

So Jessie spent the greater part of that evening alone, except for the occasional intrusions of the maid, and the time seemed long; perhaps because she was alone, and the sense of loneliness is stimulating to the imagination, the stranger Simpson held her thoughts, and stirred within her a feeling of uneasiness.

The supper was ready when Hendrake returned from the "Wheatsheaf."

"Oh!" he exclaimed, as he entered the room, "that's cheerful—bright fire, bright light, bright smiles! It's freezing hard. Well, Jess, the stranger is no logner strange, but mine own familiar f iend. I've asked him in to supper t morrow night."

"Oh!!" he exclaimed softly. "You should ' ve told me first."

"I ku it, and if he'd been a young man— ordinary sort of man—I should have asked him without telling yo first, dear. But there's something about him that's quite——winsome, I suppose you'd call it. There's more than that about him, too, Jess—something odd. All the time we were talking I felt he was trying to find out something about us; but he didn't ask any impertinent questions. I am convinced that for some reason or other he is interested in us to an unusual degree."

Jessie leant her arms on the table.

"It was just the same sort of idea he gave me, Will, when I met him in the village," she said presently. "He didn't look at me as an ordinary stranger might, but consideringly, as if he were weaving fancies around me, and trying to read my thoughts. It was most strange."

On the following evening Mr. Simpson arrived. He was a thick-set man of medium height, with clean-cut features, a short iron-grey beard, and sparse, almost white hair. His voice was soft and deep-toned, his manner extremely quiet.

"It is very good of you to welcome a stranger into your home, Mrs. Hendrake," he said, as Will ushered him into the room, and Jessie rose to greet him. He looked at her so searchingly that she blushed from a feeling of embarrassment, and perceiving this, he glanced round the room, and his eyes brightened as he perceived the unmistakable signs of the young people's prosperity.

For a long time the conversation was fitful and topical. Mr. Simpson was obviously laboring under embarrassment, and this, together with their preconceived ideas concerning him, created a certain awkwardness in Jessie and her husband. But, during supper, Hendrake succeeded in eliciting the fact that Mr. Simpson had travelled a great deal at one time of his life, and Jessie and he kept him to the subject obstinately. They both noticed his peculiar hesitation in answering questions relating to himself, and that he repeatedly tried to lead them to talk of themselves.

When he had departed, Will, who had helped him into his overcoat and lighted him out, returned to the parlor to find Jessie gazing at an envelope she held in her hand.

"Look at this," she said gravely, a puzzled expression in her eyes. "He must have dropped it out of his pocket when he stooped to stroke the cat."

Will took the envelope and glanced at the superscription. It was addressed to Mr. W. Arkworth at an address in London, and had been readdressed to the "Wheatsheaf Inn." It bore a date-stamp eight days old, and on the back the name of a well-known London bank.

"An alias," muttered Will angrily. "If I'd seen this before I would never have had him here. He's living under an alias, and if a man's own name is not good enough for him, the man's not good enough to be my wife's guest."

"But, Will, I—I've got a book upstairs," stammered Jessie, "a child's book; I've had it ever so long, and can't remember how I got it. The name in it is Jessie Arkworth."

Hendrake looked at her long and intently, then studied the envelope again.

"Your maiden name was Manley, and your father died when you were five—fifteen years ago," he murmured, dropping into the armchair by the fire.

"Oh, I know!!" she exclaimed, and she laughed softly, though rather nervously, at the idea his words implied. "I was thinking that perhaps he was a distant relation or an intimate friend of father's or mother's. Perhaps when I was quite a little girl I used to play with a little girl of his, and her name was Jessica too; and that's how I got the book. Of course, when father died mother left the place where I was born, and that may be how we lost sight of our friends. This man may be interested in us because he used to know me as a little mite, and because my name is Jessica. Don't you think so?"

"It is possible," he answered slowly. "But why come down here in the name of Simpson? And why hide the fact that he is an old friend, if, as we should have to suppose, he came down to renew that friendship?"

"Ah! now you're going too deep for me, Will," she said.

"Well, Jess, it's odd; you must admit that."

"I feel it's oddness rather than see it."

"Perhaps so. I'll return the envelope to him with some such remark as 'I suppose it is yours, although it's addressed to W. Arkworth?' That ought to evoke an explanation from him if his alias is for an honest purpose."

Jessie nodded thoughtfully, and the subject dropped.

The following day, business took Hendrake away to a distant town. In the afternoon Mr. Simpson called, bringing Jessie an immense bunch of chrysanthemums, which she had chanced to mention the night before as her favorite flowers. It was obvious to her that he must have gone into the market town, four miles away, to buy them.

"If I were a young man, my dear, I wouldn't have done it," he said, as she took them from him with a faltered protest; "but an old man has privileges."

The familiarity of his "my dear" struck her strangely, especially as it seemed to fall from his lips quite naturally.

"Thank you so much. They are lovely," she murmured. "Will is going to have a greenhouse built so that I can have flowers all the year round."

"It seems to me," he said rather sharply, and looked at her intently, "that you've got a very indulgent husband. You ought to be happy."

"Oh, I am," she declared involuntarily, with a bright smile; "as happy as could be. He's the best husband in the world."

"That's good," he returned, turning his eyes to the fire. "That's a great thing. I like to hear young people say they are happy, and to see it. We can't all be happy in this world, of course, and it's cheering to those who aren't to see their young friends are."

"Oh!!" she exclaimed, something in his tone exciting her sympathy, "I hope you're not unhappy, Mr. Simpson."

"I'm a very lonely old man," he answered, after a brief pause, "a lonely old man. And I have suffered great hardships, sorrows, and disappointments."

"I am so sorry," she murmured, in a far-off tone. "You have, perhaps, lost dear ones who were everything to you. It must be awful—to lose near est and dearest—husband, wife, or child."

"Yes," he said; and there was a hollow ring in his voice; "but it's when you're getting old you feel it most—it's then you feel the silence of voiceless loneliness most poignantly."

"I've lost both father and mother," she whispered gently; "but I can scarcely feel the loss of them because my husband is—is everything that's good."

"Ah, of course; of course, that makes a difference," he muttered, spreading out his hands before the fire.

"We will have tea now," she murmured, and rang the bell for the maid.

She had no suspicions of Mr. Simpson now; all had been swept away by the flood of womanly sympathy he had evoked by describing himself as a lonely, unhappy man—which, indeed, he had seemed at the time to typify.

His manner at once became more cheerful, and he entertained her greatly by relating some of his experiences during his travels; occasionally drawing her to speak of herself and Hendrake in an incidental way.

It was about six when he left, and Hendrake came in a few minutes later.

"Mr. Simpson has been, Will," Jessie told him; "he brought me these flowers."

Will looked at the flowers thoughtfully and pulled off his coat before speaking.

"Did he say whether he'd been robbed, or had lost anything?" he inquired.

"No. Robbed? Why? What do you mean?"

"—I—I, well I thought he might have," he stammered awkwardly. "As I drove through market square this morning I saw him enter the police-station. On my way back, coming through Queep's street, I met Inspector Willcocks, and thought I'd just ask him who the man was. When I mentioned the name of Simpson, he was puzzled as to whom I meant, so I described him. 'Oh, Mr. Arkworth,' he says, in an odd sort of way. 'Know him?' I explained that I'd got acquainted with him, and wondered why he called at the station. 'Oh,' he said, 'just a little private matter of his own.' Of course, I didn't press him for further particulars; but somehow—well, there, I don't know!"

"Yes, Will; tell me!" Jessie exclaimed anxiously.

"Well, I had the funny idea that for some reason we can't fathom he may have come down here to make trouble for us; and I've wondered if that envelope was a part of the game; whether he's dropped it here purposely. Probably it once had something of value in it. Did he go to the police to inform them that he's lost it, and to start a scandal humming round us?"

"Oh, Will!" cried Jessie. "You don't think so?"

"I don't say I think so; I just wondered."

"I don't believe it," she declared. "Go down and give him the envelope, and you'll find out."

"I think I will," he replied, and put on his coat again. He was back in less than a quarter of an hour.

"He was out," he explained shortly. "I'll go down again after supper. I asked Collins quietly if Simpson had mentioned losing anything, and he said he had."

Jessie and he were just finishing supper when they heard someone knock at the front door.

"Now, who's that?" Will exclaimed rising quickly.

"Mr. Simpson to see you," said the maid, opening the door as he crossed the room.

"Oh, all right. Ask him in."

"They told me you'd been down to see me, Mr. Hendrake," said Simpson, as he entered the room. "So I thought I'd come along."

"Yes, I wanted to see you," Hendrake stammered, and glanced meaningly at Jessie, who rose from her chair and left the room. "Sit down, will you? I wanted to give you this envelope. You dropped it here last night."

Mr. Simpson took the envelope and held it out at arm's length with one hand while he searched his pocket for his glasses.

"It's addressed to 'W. Arkworth,'" said Will, watching the stranger's face.

"Oh!" said Simpson. "Oh, yes. Thank you," he muttered, and stuffed the envelope into a pocket of his coat.

"Did it contain anything of value?" Will inquired, and dropped into the armchair on the other side of the hearth.

"Well—er—yes, it did," answered Simpson awkwardly and in some surprise.

"I only ask because I wondered whether it was the loss of it which sent you to the police station at Marlsbury this morning."

Simpson jumped to his feet, and threw out his hand in a gesture of alarm. Then his whole figure relaxed, and he drooped dejectedly.

"You saw me?" he whispered hoarsely.

"Yes."

Simpson nodded slowly and fingered his beard nervously.

"Dear, dear!" he muttered sadly, and walked over to the window. "Found out—found out already," he said, with evident emotion. "I ought to have gone farther away."

Will watched him wonderingly.

"I—I've abused your hospitality, Hendrake," he said, returning to his chair again. "But I didn't think you'd find out. Thank God it's you who've found out. I'll tell you everything, so you'll know what to do if it leaks out here that John Simpson was William Arkworth."

"Don't tell me anything I need not hear," protested Will, uneasily.

"Listen," said Simpson, and glanced over his shoulder to see if the door were shut. "About sixteen or seventeen years ago I was in business with another man, and, as I thought, making a fortune. But all the time he was robbing me—robbing me and my wife and child. I didn't find it out till he levanted with our joint funds and left me with a ruined business—ruined by his default. I followed him to France, Germany, and Russia, tracing him back to England. But there!—perhaps you remember reading of the trial of William Arkworth for the murder of his partner Benson?"

"No," said Will hoarsely; "I don't."

"I was mad—mad with the lust of hatred for the man who had robbed my dear ones. I did it—I was guilty; I was—sentenced to death, but reprieved. I served the sentence up to the period of remission, when I was released on ticket-of-leave. It was to report myself, as I'm obliged to, that I went to the police station to day.

"When I came out of prison I looked for my wife and child. Ah!! Who can tell you of the thoughts I'd weaved round them in those awful hours of loneliness and inactivity, slave-like labor and cattle like herding and housing? Who?

"Where were they? Gone! I was alone, and my heart yearned for them. I missed them as if they had filled every hour of my life. Eventually I found that after my conviction my wife had bidden her shame under the assumed name of Manley."

"Manley?" cried Will. "You are ——"

"Yes, I am Jessie's father," said Simpson, and hid his face in his hands. He looked up suddenly. "But she must never know, sir!" he exclaimed, tremulous with agitation. "I tell you only because you have found out so much, and I want you to know all in order to be able to shield her from the knowledge. I am dead. I only traced her and came down here to find out if she were happy in her marriage, and might possibly make friends with you and so occasionally enjoy an hour or two of her company. Swear to me, sir, that she shall never know! Let me at least go out again into my lonely life with the comfortable assurance that my child shall never know! Tell me that you will protect her by every means in your power, and will always be good to her."

Hendrake, who had dropped his hands, looked up and rose, catching the hand Simpson held out appealingly. "Man," he said, chokingly, "I will. Your secret and your child are safe with me. But you must go away; even now I believe that the instinct of the child is moving in her to recognise in you her father."

"She mustn't," muttered Simpson, "I'm going now." He stepped forward as Hendrake opened the door for him. Both drew back at the sight of Jessie standing just outside.

"Father!" she whispered, looking into Simpson's face with dilating eyes. "Father!"

They gazed at her dumbly, too startled to grasp the meaning of her presence.

She stretched out her trembling hands and touched him with her finger-tips.

"Something stronger than curiosity forced me to listen," she murmured. "Stay and be our friend—Mr. Simpson; we only will know you are my father." She slid her arms round his neck and looked intently into his eyes. "Tell him to stay, Will. He worked for me, did it because of me, suffered for me. Tell him to stay, Will."

"Yes," said Hendrake firmly, and urged them into the room. "What you did you have suffered for—more than, perhaps, was just. Stay at Hendlewood, Mr.—Simpson, and be our friend."

"Father," panted Jessie, falling upon her knees beside him as he sank weakly into a chair, "stay near us and you shall not be lonely. I am your daughter and Will's your son."

"God bless you, Jess—my Jess!" cried her father, folding her closely to him. "My little girl, how could I tear myself away now that you've called me 'father'?"

CAN DOGS LAUGH?

The celebrated French physiognomist, Gratiolet, admitted that dogs have what he called "the smile of the eyes." "The smile of the mouth," however, he regarded as peculiar to man. Scotch collies certainly seem at times to smile at sights which are comical, and on occasions at their masters.

Many instances have been advanced to prove their quick appreciation of a joke. One of these intelligent dogs used to look with a knowing air at his master when he saw a travelling bear, and his lips were drawn back at the corners, and his eyes twinkled with quite a conscious smile.

Darwin recognised this sense of humor in a dog, and refers to its sportive play when a stick is thrown, which it picks up and almost allows you to recover before it darts away with it.

Mr. Lloyd Morgan tells of a retriever, a "jolly dog," which showed its sense of fun upon the sands, where it would bury a number of small crabs and bark with delight when, after waiting and watching, it saw a leg or claw emerge.

SUNSHINE AT MEALS.

"My husband is a perfect wet blanket at the table," said a wife despairingly, as she rose from a silent and depressing meal. "I make every excuse for him, but I am disturbed about the effect of his moodiness on the children. They cannot understand that their father is tired, that his business vexes him, and that he dreads the morrow, not knowing what it may bring forth."

A great deal is said and written about the wife's duty to meet her husband with a smile, no matter what her trials during the day, and in his absence may have been. Surely it is equally his duty to meet her in a tranquil and contented manner, and to leave his business cares behind him. The family board should be more than cheerful; it should be gay, and everybody should save a bright anecdote, a merry saying, a happy thought for repetition there.

The greatest heroine in the world is the mother. No one else makes such sacrifices or endures the sufferings that she uncomplainingly endures for her children.

THE GOLDEN BALL OF THE ARGONAUTS.

By C. E. Van Loan.

CHAPTER I.

Old Tom Carson, the proprietor of the Golden Eagle Hotel, stretched himself and arose from his nap behind the cigar counter. The 'bus from the afternoon train drew up at the door, and the arrivals marched solemnly across the threshold.

"Not even a fresh drummer!" sighed Mr. Carson, who was a thrifty soul. "Looks like a bad night."

A few persons of no importance signed timidly, and were hurried away in the wake of Casey, head porter, bell-boy, and assistant barkeeper. Last of all came a withered little man, staggering under the delight of a large, old-fashioned carpet sack valise. As he reached for the pen, Mr. Carson noticed that the stranger's right hand was strangely twisted and the joints of his fingers much enlarged.

Many years behind a desk in a country hotel had taught Tom Carson the trick of reading a signature upside down. The little old man wrote laboriously, Carson idly following the crawling pen with his eyes. As the newcomer stopped to cross a "t," the proprietor snorted and bent over the register. Then he turned the book around and studied the signature.

"Marcus Tettleback!" he ejaculated. "Say! If you ain't little Mark Tettleback, short-stop of the old Argonaut team, who are ye?"

The little old man had picked up his carpet sack. It dropped with a crash.

"If I ain't him, I ain't anybody!" he said, simply. "But who is it that remembers the Argonauts?"

Tom Carson reached across the narrow counter and seized the old man by the shoulders, rocking him back and forth to emphasise his words.

"Why, you old rascal! Don't you recognise Tom Carson, that played first base for the Eurekas?"

"Seein' as you give me this broken finger," said the old man, exhibiting a crooked digit, "I oughtn't to forgit ye entirely!"

The faithful Casey returned in time to see the old men slapping shoulders and exploding in shrill cackles of laughter.

"Somethin' doin' this evenin'," said that wise youth. "The old boy never warmed up that way before! Wonder who's his nabs with the young trunk?"

"Just think!" panted Carson. "After all these years! You an' me meetin' in New York State. Come on over here—I got a million questions to ask ye."

Casey hovered near, his eye on the bag.

"I'll take care of that," said Carson. "Now, then, you old mushrat, what you been doin' with yourself all these years? I swear I never expected to see one of them Argonauts again! Mark, I've talked myself black in the face tryin' to tell these farmers around Collinsville what kind of ball-players California turned out in the early days. Honest, these yaps won't believe that we played a tournament for a gold ball. They say a ball of solid gold, that size, would cost too much money, an' no town would put it up. They didn't know San Francisco back in the sixties, did they? That was some town—he, Mark?"

"Yes, indeed," said aged Tettleback. "I've done some travellin' since I left there, but I ain't never seen none to compare with it, no way."

"An' the men!" said Carson, enthusiastically. "What a rip-snortin' bunch them Argonauts was! No sofy-pillows for them! They was ball-players, they was! Where did they all go to?"

Old Tettleback slow spread his hands and shook his head.

"Not all of 'em?" persisted Carson. Tettleback nodded.

"Some of us got in on that last call they issued for troops," said he. "I'm the only one that's left out of that team, Tom."

"The only one!" said Carson, slowly.

Then a silence fell between the two old men. They were back in the days when blood was hot and life rioted over the sandhills of the metropolis of the West.

"San Francisco's changed, Tom," said the old short-stop. "I don't reckon there's many left that remember the old Argonauts."

"Well, they ought to!" stormed Carson. "They ought to remember that gold ball series. You know I ain't heard a word about that ball since you Argonauts went East. You took it along with you then. Did you melt it up or what?"

"No," said Tettleback, slowly. "It was never melted up, or anything like that."

"But——" snorted Carson.

"I'm tellin' you, Tom," said the old man, gently. "You see, the ball belonged to the whole team, an' the majority was to rule. Some of 'em was for cuttin' it up an' givin' each man his part to spend as he pleased; an' then again there was some of us couldn't stand to see the ball destroyed. I was one of them. After the war was over there was only three of us left—Tim Gleason, an' Archie Patterson, an' me. Tim was crazier than ever to get his share—wanted a third of the ball; but Archie wouldn't have it cut up, an' neither would I. We kept it in a safe deposit vault, an' once a year we'd have a little dinner, an' got it out an' put it on the table. Tim went down South somewhere on business, an' the fever got him. After that there was only Archie an' me, an' Archie died a few months ago—just slipped off suddenly."

Old Tom Carson put his hands on the back of his chair, and leaned forward eagerly.

"The ball!" he whispered. "What did you do with it? Did you sell it, or cut it up, or what?"

Marcus Tettleback dropped one knotted hand on the carpet bag valise.

"What?" gasped the landlord of the Golden Eagle. "You got it here?"

"The eye-dontical gold ball, Tom," said the aged one.

Carson rose and laid eager hands on the carpet bag.

"Come on into my office!" he said.

CHAPTER II.

Once inside, Carson shot the bolt and placed the bag on the table. With much deliberation Tettleback fitted a key to the lock, and began to remove articles of wearing apparel. Last of all came a black box some eight inches square.

The old man removed the cover and swept away a layer of cotton. Another movement of the hand, and a smooth yellow surface came to view.

"Lemme have my hands on it!" said Carson. "My cats! Ain't she heavy?"

The golden ball was a wonderful specimen of the goldsmith's art. It was a mammoth baseball of the early period, the seams and stitching standing out in relief. Fully five inches in diameter, it was a sight to stir the blood of any man who loved gold for its own sake. Tom Carson patted it and cuddled it, and exhausted his vocabulary.

"What's she worth, Mark?" he said at last.

"I don't rightly know," said the old man. "A whole lot of money, Tom. Tim Gleason had it all worked out; he weighed it one time. There ain't enough money in the world to buy it from me. I don't look at it as something you could cut up an' spend. Look at all the remembrances that's in that ball. Read the names of those boys—all gone now. No, Tom; I couldn't do it, any more'n I could sell one of my children, if I had one—which I ain't."

"I guess you're right," said Carson slowly, though without any particular enthusiasm. "Where you going to keep it? I got a safe here——"

"Just the thing!" said the old man briskly. "Can't afford to take any chances!"

"I should say not!" assented the proprietor. "I tell you what, Mark, I'll put it in the safe, an' you come out and have dinner with me. Fricasseed chicken night, too! We'll talk things over."

An hour later, over the cigars, Carson made a proposition.

"See here, Mark. You say you ain't got any folks except those nephews of yours that you ain't seen since they was babies. What's the matter with your stayin' here a while, and makin' me a visit? We could have a bully good time together, an' I'd let you have Number Ten—that's the room with a bath—an' make you the cheapest commercial rate there is. Couldn't live any cheaper anywheres, Mark, an' it'd be a pleasure just to have you round the place. How 'bout it?"

The old ball-player was deeply touched by this magnanimous proposal, and said that he would think about it.

A little later the young reporter for the "Morning Bee," dropping in to get some material for his "Visiting Strangers" column, was buttonholed by Mr. Carson and led into the inner office, where he shook Mr. Tettleback by the hand, viewed the golden ball, and went away with his head whirling.

The publication of that article marked the beginning of the era of Marcus Tettleback and his golden ball. All next day the aged athlete held a levee, and in the evening there was an informal reception, the members of the Collinsville Baseball Club attending in their uniforms. Tom Carson was in his element. Every little while he would pass in and out, whispering to favored ones, after which a select party would repair to the private office, to come out with bulging eyes and voices hushed to reverent whispers.

Each evening a number of prominent citizens would gather to hear the tales of the surviving Argonaut. The old man repaid them nobly, and gained much applause.

"You liked that one, did you?" the old man would chuckle. "That being the case—barkeep! See what these gentlemen will have to take!"

At each round Casey would linger about, ostentatiously displaying his tray. The bar business of the Golden Eagle was based on a cash foundation, but the ancient athlete overlooked the slight formality of the transfer of coin of the realm.

These nightly gatherings were always well attended, and it was noised about the town that the old man was always good for three stories, and, consequently, three drinks. It may be inferred that there was no lack of appreciation of his stories.

Young Joe Bates, who worked nights, felt himself called upon to make a few remarks at the end of the first week.

"Of coirse, Mr. Carson," said he, "I ain't got no right hornin' in here, but knowin' what your rule is about these things, I—— Say, do you know what that old feller's bonze-bill amounts to for this week alone?"

"I—well, perhaps it ought to be looked into," said Mr. Carson. "How much is it?"

"Sixty-five bucks," said young Bates as one mentioning a national debt. "Nobody ain't seen the color of his money round here."

"Put the bill in his box," said Mr. Carson. "I think it will be all right."

"Oh, sure it'll be all right," said Bates. "You got his ball, ain't you?"

"That will do, Joe," said Carson sternly.

Then he went into his private office and locked the door.

CHAPTER III.

The old ball-player continued to be the star attraction of the town. Farmers drove thirty miles to see him; drummers invited him to dinner. Mr. Tettleback fully realised his position as a public idol. He insisted that his friends should have the best of everything, and Tom Carson had a bill a foot long in the third lower drawer. He used to take it out and look at it occasionally. It never grew any shorter. Joe Bates went about his work with his nose in the air.

One morning the old man did not leave his room. He said he was not feeling very well. The next day Tom Carson sent for the doctor, who came, made a careful examination, and then stepped out into the hall, where Carson was waiting.

"Why, no," said the man of medicine; "nothing special the matter with him. Old age, and all that sort of thing, you know. You've got to expect it at his time of life. He may live a week, or a month, or a year—it just depends. The machinery runs down, my dear sir, and there comes a time when it stops. Keep him cheerful, and see that he has everything he wants. Has he—ah—any relations?"

Carson shook his head.

"Ah! Quite so." The doctor had seen the ball.

"Give him the best of everything, doc," said Carson, anxiously. "He's a friend of mine, an' I'm responsible."

For three weeks the old man lingered. One evening, just at dusk, he sent for Carson.

"No use trying to fool me any more, Tom," said the old man wearily. His voice trailed away into silences, and his thin cheeks were white against the pillow. "It's getting dark," panted the old man. "Have to call the game soon! Tom, do you think they score all our errors?"

"Don't talk about it, Mark," said Carson. "You'll outlive a dozen younger men."

The old head moved slightly from side to side.

"No use!" he panted. "No use! Tom, when I'm gone there's something I want you to do for me—something about the ball. Are you listening, Tom?"

Carson gripped the edge of the bed until his knuckles were white.

"Yes, Mark," said Carson.

The little old man closed his eyes. For a long time there was no sound in the room. The doctor, who had been sent for, entered hastily, picked up the limp wrist, and watched the dying man's face as he counted. Then he turned to Carson.

"Tom, are you there?" The eyes were open again, and the lips were barely moving. "I want you to know—that—I——"

A quiver passed through the shrunken frame; the dying eyes opened wide. The little old man half raised himself in bed. Stretching out his left arm, with palm downward, and one finger pointing straight before him, he cried in a clear, ringing voice:

"How is it, umpire? Safe?"

The doctor eased the old man back among the pillows, bent over him for a few seconds, and then straightened up, nodding at Tom Carson. The short-stop of the Argonauts had gone to join his team.

CHAPTER IV.

It was a very impressive funeral. The business houses closed their doors, and the town attended in a body. The Collinsville Baseball Club sent a floral pillow, on which appeared, in violet letters:

"He has made his last Home Run."

The day after the funeral Tom Carson took the morning train for New York. He carried a new valise. That afternoon he stood in the back room of a manufacturing jeweller's establishment on Maiden Lane.

"Whew!" whistled the proprietor. "Quite a ball, isn't it? What? Solid gold? Of course, as a matter of form—have a chair, sir."

The jeweller held the ball between his knees; a tiny drill whirred for a few seconds, and was laid aside. He picked up a small bottle, and poured a few drops into the hole. Then his eyes met Carson's.

"Did you buy this?" he asked pointedly.

"No," said Carson, shiftily. "I—took it for a debt."

"Hm-m-m-m-m!" said the jeweller, as with his thumb he wiped away a greenish froth which had bubbled to the surface.

"Well," said he, cheerfully, "I've seen many a gold brick in my time, but this is the first round one I ever—hullo! What's the matter with you?"

When the evening 'bus unloaded its passengers at the Golden Eagle that night Tom Carson was among them. He walked like a very old man. As he passed his mail-box two letters caught his eye. One was from the doctor; the other was from the undertaker.

Mr. Carson passed into his private office and locked the door behind him.

ON GETTING RICH.

Get riches, my boy! Grow as rich as you can;
'Tis the laudable aim of each diligent man;
Of life's many blessings his share to secure,
Nor go through this world ill-conditioned and poor.

Get riches, my boy! Ah, but hearken you, mind!
Get riches, but those of the genuine kind,
Get riches—not dollars and acres, unless
You thoughtfully use them to brighten and bless.

Get riches, not such as with money are bought,
But those that with love and high thinking are wrought;
Get rubies of righteousness, jewels of grace,
Whose brightness Time's passing shall never efface.

Get riches! Do not as the foolish will do,
In getting your money let money get you.
To steal life's high purpose from heart and from head,
And prison the soul in a pocket instead.

Get riches! Get gold that is pure and refined;
Get light from above; get the love of mankind;
Get gladness through all of life's journey; and then
Get heaven forever and ever. Amen.

THE STOCKING BASKET.

Mending stockings might well be thought a prosaic occupation, if not a dull one. The woman who sits down every week before twenty pairs, worn by active feet, big and little, often finds the pile discouraging, although she would not have it smaller by a single pair.

But there is a curious, half-mysterious charm in the work. It is as if it typified all wifely and motherly duty. Even the maiden aunt, with a darning needle in her hand, has the air of the matron. The coziest corner in the house is most fit for the stocking basket and its presiding genius. An incontestable verdict against a gorgeous palace recently built by a rich man was pronounced by a woman, herself both refined and rich: "There isn't a spot in the whole house where I could darn a stocking!"

It is amusing or pathetic, but true, that the modern stocking should have taken the place held by the mediaeval shield. To bide at home and polish the shield was then the sign of wifely devotion. The worn stocking may not lend itself so easily to the demands of poetry, but it is none the less a beautiful and appropriate symbol.

There was a time within twenty years when it seemed as if stocking mending were doomed. The needle was temporarily discarded. A clever writer, speaking of the fact, said it was the natural reaction from an age which worked wool parrots with beaded eyes to an age which hires outsiders to darn its stockings. But to-day the pendulum has swung back, and my lady presides again over the stocking basket—whether it is filled with dainty Parisian hose of silk or with stout woollen socks, fit for tussle with thorn and wind and weather.

THE WISDOM OF BUDDHA.

If a man holds himself dear, let him watch himself carefully; the truth guards him who guards his self.

If one man conquer in battle a thousand times a thousand men, and if another conquers himself, he is the greatest of conquerors.

Earnestness is the path of immortality; thoughtlessness the path of death. Those who are in earnest do not die; those who are thoughtless are as if dead already.

He whose wickedness is very great brings himself down to that state where his enemy wishes him to be. He himself is his greatest enemy. Thus a creeper destroys the life of a tree on which it finds support.

Before long, alas! this body will lie on the earth, despised, without understanding, like a useless log, yet our thoughts will endure. They will be thought again and will produce action. Good thoughts will produce good actions, and bad thoughts will produce bad actions.

BOOKS GIVEN TO THE FLAMES.

The last authorised book-burning in Great Britain was in 1770, when "The Commercial Restraint of Ireland Considered," by the Hon. Holy Hutchinson, was given to the flames.

The war against books began under Henry VIII., when books were burnt by both religious parties. All copies of Tyndal's Bible that could be bought were publicly burnt at St. Paul's on Shrove Tuesday, 1527, and a general destruction by fire of unlicensed books was ordered three years later by the King. In 1785 the Star Chamber claimed power of licensing and seizing books, and their scrutiny was as rigorous as that of the Inquisition.

In 1607 Dr. Cowell's "Law Dictionary" was burnt by order of the House of Commons for its assertion of Divine right in favor of James I., and "The King's Book of Sports" met with a similar fate at the hands of the Puritans in 1644.

About a century later Defoe's Shortest Way with the Dissenters" was burnt by Parliament, and in 1703 Wilke's "North Briton" was subject to the same wanton intolerance, which in some cases defeated its own object.

Many farmers do not realise the extent of damage done by weeds. It is stated that for every ton of dry matter produced on a field five hundred tons of moisture are required from the germination of the seed to the harvesting of the crops. Weeds act as powerful water pumps, taking hundreds of tons of moisture from the soil and discharging it into the air—moisture that is needed for the growth of the legitimate crop. It is clear, then, how important it is that weeds should be destroyed.

Much of the charity that begins at home is too weak to travel.

CURRENT THOUGHT.

Lands that have become poor and unproductive through a long course of soil robbery and poor cultivation cannot suddenly be restored merely by the use of commercial fertilisers. They have been reduced to the old dead skeleton of sand and clay, the life-giving humus or real soil having been burned out. This has been largely the result of single cropping.

We are compelled to recognise the value of the pure bred dairy cow that comes from a line of creditable ancestry on both sides. She is a present-day model, a type, representing the sum and aggregation of all her ancestors. She is a representative of what her dam and granddam were in their day—a link in the chain of creation, carrying down the inherited qualities and tendencies of her breed from one generation to another. It is this invisible inherent quality in the pure-bred animal that makes her valuable. She has the perpetuated excellence of her ancestry, and if properly bred and cared for, will produce calves that will equal or exceed her in value when put in the dairy. One farmer may prefer one breed, and another may prefer another breed, but this is more a matter of individual fancy, and does not indicate that one breed is superior to another.

If a man's soil is poor after he has been cultivating it for years, it is the fault of the farmer, and in the great awakening that is being manifested, the day is at hand when a farmer will be ashamed to say that his land is poor, for it will at once be known that he is a poor farmer.

In our cities are found wrong notions of the farmers, and on the farms wrong notions about the city people. These notions are often uncomplimentary, and as a result the farmer has an unkind feeling toward—not the city people he knows—but the city people as a class; and it is unfortunate that he may be indifferent to some things that affect the welfare of the city people. And it is especially unfortunate that city people, because of wrong notions of farmers they do not know, are indifferent and often hostile to the interest of rural communities. The truth is that the interests of the men in the city and the men on the farm are closely interwoven; that which injures the city hurts the farm; that which benefits the farm helps the city. —"Hoard's Dairyman."

What technical education is doing for the manufacturing interests demonstration farms should do for the primary producer; and there is no department of state expenditure or state interference (if such a term may be applied) more justified than that of promoting agriculture by means of modern educational methods. The man in the laboratory is almost as necessary to the agricultural advance as the man behind the plough. Australia must not be less enterprising than its neighbors and its world competitors in applying education on the practical side. "The uplift of the farmer" means national stability and progress.—"Adelaide Observer."

I find that it is easy to carry some schemes of farm management in the head, but the memory is fickle (says a farmer), and for that reason it is a good plan to carry a memorandum book to note down the things that need doing, and then one can look it over occasionally, selecting such things as need doing the most, and letting other things remain until the last. Where one does this he will not need to say, "I wish I had done differently."

To-day dairying is a study of breeds and breeding, the picking of dairy traits and performance, the best uniting strong family peculiarities, and even the value or detriment of line breeding to assist in strong dairy maintenance. It has to do with the whole line of feeds and feeding, compounding feeds and their values. It means sanitation and even hygiene, and the physics of milk, its handling and care, are parts of the requirements of the modern dairyman. When the great question of the man and his cow is settled—which, in fact, is nine parts of the whole—these little matters will have settled themselves, for unto him who has understanding "All else will be added."—"New York Tribune Farmer."

The modern farmer, however, no longer tempts Providence by carrying all his eggs in one basket. The most satisfactory feature of agricultural expansion in South Australia is the serious attempt to diversify production, and the more this system is extended the less likely is the man on the land to feel the ill-effects of "lean" years, which must succeed the cycle of "fat" seasons. By-products will be the salvation of the tiller of the soil should his wheat crops ever fail.—"Adelaide Observer."

Any kind of man can farm in some kind of way, but only the right man can farm in the right way. The farmer needs to be a scholar, and if he understands his occupation he will be an agricultural scholar in spite of himself.

What is the use of buying a high-priced cow and then half-starving her? Some people do this, yet, when the cow fails to produce a large quantity of butter per week, they exclaim; "I told you so. Those stories about pure-bred cows being good butter-yielders are all lies." When we put a lot of good money into anything, whether it be a cow or a machine, or no matter what it may be, we should do our level best to use that thing so that we may get the most good out of it.

Now and then farmers think they will live longer and be happier if they leave the old place and go where they will not have to work. It is a mistake, and they find it so sooner than they desire. It is not work that kills; work keeps men alive. A farmer can go without very fine clothes, and still be comfortable; but without work he soon finishes his course on this old earth."—"The Epitomist."

The farmer is the hereditary head of all business endeavor; without him there can be no government or life. His place is not that of the servant, but of the master. The manufacturer and miner must be fed; the transportation companies exist by carrying his products; and the parasitic lines of business or professions by trading in his products, or administering to him. The kingdom of the earth is the farmer's, and he will again assert his title; by improving the quality of his products and advertising it; by improving the sanitary conditions of his buildings and advertising it. If the so-called trusts have made money while the farmer has lost, it is because the methods of the trusts were better, therefore, the farmer must study these methods. The majority of the leaders in every business are farmers' sons, and had they remained on the farm they would have found just as many acres of diamonds on the old farm as in the adopted business which they now

A VISIT TO CEYLON.

[By W. W. Rock].

No. 2.

S.S. "Osterley,"
Gulf of Aden.
27/10/09.

A light on the starboard bow! The passengers flock to the steamer's side, talking in little groups. It is the Galle light on the south coast of Ceylon, a welcome sight after so many days of sea. A little later the glimmer of another light appears farther up the coast, then another and another, as we steam on through the night. We are nearing port. Finally out of the inky blackness springs up the three-flash light that marks our goal.

I did not sleep much that night. The small hours of the morning found me on deck gazing out across the harbor at the lights of Colombo, wondering what mystery the dawn would reveal. Gradually the daylight crept in, and slowly the curtain rose, until the port lay before us with its myriad of shipping. Long before the sun rose the harbor was teeming with life. Steam launches darted here and there screeching and whistling. Scores of small craft full of lean brown men surrounded us; catamarans laden with fruit skimmed across the water; huge coal barges made their way with the certainty of extreme slowness to the side of our steamer, and soon small armies of human ants were filling the bunkers with coal.

"You want white suit, Sahib?" I turned quickly and collided with a brown skinned native, who backed off apologising profusely. The deck was crowded with Cingalese and Tamils, chattering and laughing and displaying their wares—fruit, elephants of ivory and ebony, lace, cigars, priceless gems cut from old bottles, and a thousand other items. "Newspapers! 'You Buy-man' papah, Sahib? All latest telygram. Nose of Ostrelyah, Sah." That did the business. I invested sixpence. Before I went down to breakfast fifteen tailors wanted to make me fifteen white suits. During the few hours that a vessel is in port the native tailor will turn out a very fair suit to your order for the sum of seven rupees (about 9/6). Then came the dhobys, or washermen, who will wash your garments at the rate of two rupees a dozen. I speculated one rupee in this direction.

After an early breakfast we went ashore in a skiff pulled by two brown machines, threading our way through the shipping of all nations. On either hand were British, German and Japanese liners. On one side lay a Spanish mail boat from Manila, taking in coal. Farther off were two junks from the Maldive Islands, while of small craft there was no end.

Then began the wonders of that wonderful day. It has been said that it takes some thing extraordinary to surprise an Australian. Well, three other Australians and myself went about with our eyes, ears, and mouth open, and failed to take in all the beauties of "India's utmost isle." We landed at the wharf, and were immediately surrounded by a horde of noisy, chattering guides. We fixed on one kind, brown gentleman named Peter, who guaranteed to direct us to Kandy, drive us to the station, pay the rail fare, arrange for a conveyance and hotel accommodation at the other end, and in fact to furnish the whole trip for the sum of fifteen rupees (£1) per head. We could not distinguish Peter from Paul, but we pinned our faith to his cap which bore the legend, 'Queen's Hotel, Kandy,' pa'd him the wherewithal, and started. The smile on Peter's face would have disarmed a Scotchman.

At the entrance to the wharf with his trays of cash in front of him, sat the official money changer, who changed our gold into the Ceylon currency, managing to swindle us out of a few cents in the process. The coinage is easy enough to understand after you have been robbed a sufficient number of times. The rupee, which is worth about 1s 4d, is divided into 100 cents. The cent is a small copper coin. Then there are the half, quarter, and 10 cent pieces. A 10 cent piece is slightly smaller than our threepenny bit, and is worth about half that coin.

The drive to the station in the early morning was intensely interesting. The clean red roads and red buildings made a pleasing contrast with the vivid green of the flowering trees in the streets. But the city was waking up. Hundreds of bare-limbed natives clad in all the colours of the rainbow, thronged the roadway. Rickshaw coolies darted here and there ringing the small bells on the shafts. On one side was a miniature bullock not much bigger than a Newfound land dog, with a curious hump on its back, pulling along its heavy-looking cart. We passed the Colombo lake with its fringe of rank tropical vegetation, where the dhobys were already at their work of clothes washing, and entered the Pettah, or native quarter—a veritable human hive.

The place swarmed with the children of the East—Cingalese, Malays, Hindoos, Tamils, Arabs, and other brown skins and half-breeds. Most of them seemed to have come away from the kitchen in a hurry, wrapping the dishcloth and a towel around them as they came. Others again had even forgotten the towel. The youth of the Cingalese population are not over-burdened with clothing at any time, but up to five or six years of age appear to go about wrapt in thought more than anything else. Considering the climatic conditions one must accept this in a philosophical spirit. Beautiful chocolate infants ran alongside our carriage, tossing flowers on our knees, touching their foreheads with their hands, and calling out in their shrill voices, "Me hongral, Sah! Give ten cents. You verri nice mahn! Gi, Gi."

We passed rows and rows of native shops, all jammed together and none of them over clean. On one side stood a dealer at his food-stall, measuring out small quantities of rice. There, squatting in the doorway with his chest gripped between his knees, was a barber busily engaged shaving the scalp. Beggars were everywhere. At a corner a white policeman slashing out right and left with his stick at unruly natives. The whole scene redolent of the East, wonderful and bizarre.

At the station Peter purchased our tickets, a brown-skinned porter ushered us into a carriage, and remained at the door salaaming and touching the forehead for quite an unreasonable time. It took a quarter to move him on. Then we started on our 74 miles rail journey "unto the incense breathing hills of sweet Ceylon." At first through flat country—great swamps and submerged paddy fields, backed by the dense tropical growth. It was the end of the rainy season, and water lay everywhere. The atmosphere was hot and humid, and one thought of malaria with a shudder. The vegetation is delightful. Palm groves, banana trees, cocoanuts, giant bamboos, and all manner of strange fruits and flowers. The colouring is exquisite. Groups of coolies working waist deep in the rice fields made a picturesque scene. Their brown skins and red waist cloths stood out in contrast with the vivid green of the fields, the darker hue of the jungle behind completing the picture.

All along the route we passed villages—scores of them—swarming with native population. Here and there a hut set in a little rice patch, two or three little children brown and bare playing with the family pig at the door, a group of chickens roosting on the table inside, and the tiny bullock roped to a stake without. The Cingalese use the train to a large extent. At the quaint little stations we had opportunities of studying them as they flocked round the carriage with their wares—fruits, vegetables, cocoanuts, and strange drinks.

The natives are a motley crowd of every shade of brown down to black, the finest specimens being the Tamils, a people who originally came from the south of India. The difference between the races is not easily distinguishable. They are all dark-skinned alike to the foreigner's eyes. But to the initiated the shades of brown are as plain as is the characteristic dress of each race. The Cingalese men are small and spare. The women and girls are good-looking, with handsome brown eyes that would work wonders in other lands.

You may travel east, you may travel west, but you cannot get away from the Salvation Army. It is even established amongst the natives of Ceylon. At one station a pretty girl, clad in what looked like a red table cover, with the most eloquent eyes I have ever seen, came up to our carriage and held out a Salvation Army collecting-list. She did not speak. Simply smiled with those big eyes of hers, and went away several rupees better off.

The men seem to go to the two extremes with their hair, either shaving it down to the scalp, or wearing it long to the waist. A Cingalese ties his long hair into a nob, which is held in place at the back of the head by a tortoise shell comb. The closely-shaven heads are those of the Buddhists, who are forbidden by their religion to kill anything whatever. This fact probably accounts for the shaved scalp.

After an hour's run the train started to climb. Up and up we went into the hills, where the guide pointed out coffee plantations, the cocoa, the bread fruit, and the rubber tree, and the queen of palms, the lofty Talipot. Then we adjourned to the refreshment car for a cup of tea, and as we drank it we looked out and saw the plants growing—acres of them, stretching away down the hillside. The pace of the train slowed down as it crawled like a snake around the hills, past the great Allagalla Rock that towered majestically 1000 feet above us.

At one moment on the turn of a zigzag we gazed up at a mighty crag that lost itself in the clouds; at another on the edge of a precipice we looked down some thousands of feet into the valley below where the villages appeared like small ant heaps. Emerging suddenly from a tunnel we came on a scene that took our breath away. Wide-spreading valleys, filled with dense tropical forests, relieved here and there by the vivid green of terraced rice fields; cascades of beautiful flowering creepers that stretched from tree to tree; deep ravines and rushing waterfalls above and below; and away in the distance the blue ranges of lofty mountains. A beautiful gem set in the sea is Ceylon. Small wonder that poets have sung its praises.

"Spicy breezes blow soft o'er Ceylon's isle,
Where every prospect pleases, and only man is vile."

The train drew in at Peradeniya at eleven o'clock. "This way, Sahib," and we follow the guide to the carriage outside, pushing our way through the crowd of beggars at the gate. Our drive lay through the magnificent Botanical Gardens of Peradeniya, the finest in the world, around which runs the river of Kelani Ganga. I quote a sentence from the guide book—"The visitor ... there tropical agriculture of every kind, and he will find there expert enthusiasts, able and willing to direct his studies in the flora of the island and of the tropics generally." Alas! only too true. But the brown "enthusiasts" are experts only in extortion.

Our driver was kindness personified. Evidently imbued with the hope of future reward, he frequently got down and dashed into the bush returning with a cocoa berry, some leaves of the tea plant, or the material for spices and essences, all for our edification. But as the time was the essence of our contract we broke him of this habit by threatening to drive on without him.

(To be continued).

AN OLD VETERAN'S GRATITUDE.

Bile Beans end 17 Years of Indigestion after all Other Treatments Fail.

An interesting personality is Mr. James Siddons, master mariner, soldier, explorer and octogenarian, who gives a graphic description of his terrible sufferings from indigestion, his vain endeavours to obtain relief, and his remarkable restoration to health by Bile Beans.

Mr. Siddons is an inmate of the Veteran's Home, Mt. Roskill, Auckland, N.Z., and says:—"For 17 long years I was a great sufferer from indigestion, brought on by hardship during many years of seafaring life. At times I was completely prostrated with dizziness, pains in the side and back, attacks of retching, sick headache, and other distressing symptoms, and was often utterly incapacitated for work. I tried many so-called remedies in the hope of ridding myself of the indigestion, but my efforts were in vain. I sought the advice of doctors, chemists and other medical men, but their treatment, too, proved utterly futile, and I continued suffering. The wonderful curative properties of Bile Beans were brought to my notice by a friend in Gisborne, who strongly advised me to give them a trial. And a sound recommendation it proved. I at once procured a box of Bile Beans, and started on them. Even from the first few doses I began to feel their beneficial virtues: the pains in my side disappeared; my appetite, which previously was so poor, began to return, vomiting became a thing of the past; my head no longer ached as though it were under a heavy weight; and my eyes became clearer and brighter. I continued taking Bile Beans—gave them a fair trial and underwent a thorough course—and was soon cured of the indigestion, after having been a martyr for 17 years. In fact, I honestly believe that Bile Beans were the means of saving my life. I served for three years in the Crimean war, and am well on in years now, having passed my 79th birthday, but still very active for my age, and I attribute my health and activity to Bile Beans. If at any time I feel run down, a Bile Bean puts new life and energy into me. I cannot speak too highly of this great family medicine, and urge all sufferers to give them a trial."

Bile Beans are obtainable from all chemists and stores at 1s 1½d and 2s 9d per box.

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Satisfaction Guaranteed.
SPECTACLES to SUIT ALL SIGHTS

NORTHCOTE TOWN COUNCIL.

MONDAY, 6TH DECEMBER.

Present:—Crs. Hayes (mayor), Mitchell, Williams, Bastings, Arobbold, Woolhouse, Tharratt, Bainbridge, Dennis, Lees, Smith, McIntosh and Plant.

Cr. Woolhouse apologised for the absence of Cr. Robb, who was unwell.

FIRE ALARMS FOR THE NORTH.

The secretary Metropolitan Fire Board wrote in reply to council's letter re fire alarms stating that the lines were ordered from the Postal Department in April last and the matter now rested entirely in the hands of that department. He had no doubt the work would be completed at the earliest possible moment.—Received.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES UNION.

The Weights and Measures Union wrote stating that this council's proportion of the expenses of the union for the next 12 months would be £6 10s, for which a cheque was requested.—Referred to finance committee.

CONCESSION FROM THE RAILWAYS.

From J. G. Membrey, M.L.A., forwarding letter he had received from Railway Department re lease of a strip of railway land between Beaver's road and Beaconsfield parade. The Commissioners would be agreeable to grant the council a tenancy of the land at a nominal rental subject to the department being allowed to resume possession at any time.

Cr. Tharratt said this was a matter he had moved in some time ago, and he was delighted to hear that at last they were going to get what was required. A footpath through this railway land would save the school children going round High street. He moved that the offer be accepted and the necessary arrangements entered into.

Cr. Woolhouse seconded.

PRINCE OF WALES' PARK SCHOOL.

J. G. Membrey, M.L.A., wrote forwarding letter he had received from the Education Department stating that the Minister would receive a deputation re Prince of Wales' Park State school at 12 noon on Tuesday, 7th December.

The town clerk intimated that the deputation had been postponed on account of the Minister's absence in the country.

VACANCY ON PARK COMMITTEE FILLED.

The Lands Department wrote notifying that Cr. Dennis had been gazetted a member of the committee of management of the Northcote park in the room of ex-Cr. Candy.—Received.

CHEQUE FROM LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

R. J. Whalley, hon. sec. Northcote Public Library, wrote forwarding, by direction of his committee, cheque for £250 from the Government grant under conditions of resolution adopted 11th October, 1909.

The town clerk said he had duly acknowledged the cheque.

Cr. Lees—When was it received?

The town clerk—On the 25th.

Cr. Bastings—Two days after your challenge.

PROSPECTIVE BUILDER'S REQUEST.

R. W. Bowman, being about to erect a shop and dwelling at the corner of Smith street and Railway parade, asked that the spare earth from channel construction be used to fill up the ruts in the land when the traffic went over same.—The town clerk had replied stating that nothing could be done till the street was taken in hand.

WOOLTON AVENUE SHAFTESBURY PARADE RIGHT OF WAY.

S. T. Field wrote calling attention to the disgraceful condition of the right-of way between Woolton avenue and Shaftesbury parade, east of the railway, owing to the erection of a number of cottages in Shaftesbury parade and recent operations of the sewerage contractors. He wrote to the inspector of nuisances a week ago, but as far as he could observe nothing had been done. The only real cure was to make the right-of-way, but if this was not done a drain should at least be run right through.—Referred to the works committee, the inspector to furnish report.

WATER FOR ELM STREET.

George Frazer, C. Miller, R. J. Whalley, A. Watson, Mrs. Sachse, J. Henderson, and C. Oldenburg wrote asking the council to use their influence in getting the water main laid in Elm street between High street and railway line. It put the owners to a lot of inconvenience and expense in having to lay pipes from High street.

Cr. Tharratt moved and Cr. Woolhouse seconded that application be made to the Metropolitan Board to have the main laid as requested.—Carried.

FACTORIES APPROVED.

The application of Miss Pickering for approval of her premises as a dressmaking factory was approved.

CONFERENCE RE MERRI CREEK.

The mayor reported result of conference of municipal representatives, &c., re Merri creek, as published elsewhere.

It was intimated that there would be no deputation, but the Treasurer would consult the members for the districts.

Cr. Plant, in moving that the report be received, congratulated the mayor on having arrived at a definite proposal, and hoped that the outcome would be successful.

Cr. Archbold seconded.—Carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

Cr. Harry (chairman) submitted the report, recommending—

1. That accounts amounting to £232 2s 5d be passed for payment.—Adopted.

2. Crossing, Westgarth street, at McDonald street.—That the council make a crossing over the footway and channel in Westgarth street at the entrance of McDonald street, and recover from the owners of the tenements abutting on McDonald street their respective proportions of the expenses of such making as provided by Section 23 of Part 1 of the XIII Schedule to "The Local Government Act 1874."—Adopted.

3. Crossing Westgarth street, at McDonald street.—That tenders be invited for the construction of the crossing referred to in clause 2 of this report.—Adopted.

FINANCE AND PARK COMMITTEE.

Cr. Bastings (chairman) submitted the report, recommending—

1. That accounts amounting to £251 14s 5d be passed for payment.—Adopted.

2. Meat inspector's report.—Reporting that he has examined and branded 93 pigs, 122 cattle and calves.—Adopted.

ORDINARY BUSINESS.

Cr. Smith moved that the matter of putting in a bit of channelling opposite Mrs. Demaine's, Bay View Terrace, be referred to the works committee. Cr. Plant seconded. Carried.

Cr. Plant moved that attention be given to the metal in Merri street, which was getting scattered about the road for want of binding. Cr. Williams seconded. Carried.

Cr. Harry said a complaint had been received from the St. George's Road and Merri Creek Improvement Association as to the insanitary condition of a quarry in the west ward. Their inspector had visited the quarry and found no nuisance existed there. He moved that a reply be sent to the Association to that effect. Carried.

Cr. Harry desired to know what had been done in connection with the request from the south ward to have some of the guards removed from the trees in southern streets.

Cr. Bastings said the committee had given the matter consideration and decided they should remain where they are at present.

The town clerk explained that the gardener said it was inadvisable to take away the guards at the present time.

The mayor, in reply to Cr. Tharratt, said the building regulations had been drafted and only now awaited perusal and adoption.

Cr. Tharratt moved that the mayor and Crs. Bainbridge and Harry be appointed a committee to go into and complete the matter. Carried.

Cr. Bainbridge moved that the matter of the culvert under the railway at Westgarth street be referred to the works committee. Carried.

Cr. Smith said the inspector should report re the railway paddock next Mr. Rendle's, off Westgarth street. It was a disgrace that anyone should be allowed to have such a place next good property.

Cr. Bainbridge said he understood the tenant had been given notice to quit.

To Cr. Bainbridge the engineer said he had received no application from Mr. Raymond for a footbridge.

Replying to Cr. Lees the mayor said he expected to have something definite re the Roberts street right-of-way at next committee meeting.

Cr. Bainbridge said that owing to gas lamps being erected in Westgarth and other streets there would be several wooden lamp posts available. He moved that the matter of their future use be referred to the works committee. Seconded by Cr. Dennis and carried.

The mayor reported that the Metropolitan Board had been asked £200 for the right to use the council's north ward land for their sewer.

Cr. Mitchell promised to enquire how the matter was getting on and report to the council.

Cr. Plant moved that the disposal or otherwise of the land be referred to the committee of the whole. Cr. Smith seconded. Carried.

The mayor said that judging from the reports one read and heard there was something radically wrong with the new reinforced concrete reservoir at Preston. He would like the Commissioner to give them some information.

Cr. Mitchell said the matter was now in dispute. As soon as it was over he would give the information.

The mayor and Cr. Bastings were appointed to attend deputation to the Government to get the Williamstown back beach foreshore improved.

South Morang and Bundoora.

A very successful exhibition was held in Unity hall on the 24th ult. by the residents of South Morang and Bundoora, there being a noticeable increase in the number of entries in all classes in comparison with those of last year. Various amusing and novel competitions were carried on throughout the evening, and several well known singers added greatly to the pleasure of the entertainment by their vocal contributions.

The judges gave every satisfaction, though their powers of discrimination must have been severely taxed at times, so uniform was the excellence of the exhibits. In the cookery and fancy work sections the display was particularly good, Mrs. Brock securing first honors for a tempting collection of cakes. Miss J. Walsh, who came second, also showed herself a thorough mistress of the culinary art.

It would be a task of no small difficulty to particularise each piece of fancywork shown. A tea cosy of exquisite point lace, over buttercup silk, done by Miss Harkness, an art green cushion with violets in ribbon work by Miss Phillips, Mrs. Smith's d'oyleys, Miss Deakin's pillow shams, Miss Brown's point lace centre and many others were all "things of beauty" and "like to be a joy" to the owner.

Mesdames G. and C. LePage, A. Armstrong and Miss B. Thomas were the principal exhibitors in jams, sauces, etc. Mrs. Clements secured first for dairy butter.

The exhibition in flowers was not quite on a par with last year's show. Some good blooms were shown by Mesdames G. and C. Le Page and the Misses Butcher. Miss Phillips secured pride of place for decorated dinner table, striking a very effective note of color, with old gold and bronze ornaments, filled with some lovely yellow summer chrysanthemums and light foliage, centre to match. Miss Kathleen Butcher had a dainty table, decorated with pale pink sweet peas and asparagus fern, crystal ornaments.

The children attending both schools are to be complimented on the school work shown. It showed that the interest they took was keen—that they did not, "with shining morning face, creep unwillingly to their tasks."

The success of the exhibition rested largely with the energetic and willing helpers who came forward to assist the secretaries, and who are ever ready to assist in all the "advance" movements of the district.

PRIZE LIST.

Pot Plants.—Geranium, 1st, Miss C. Butcher; 2nd, Miss C. Butcher. Fuchsia, 1st, Mrs. C. Le Page. Asparagus Fern, 1st, Mr. J. Walsh; 2nd, Mrs. G. Le Page. Palm, 1st, Mrs. Armstrong.

Cut Flowers.—Three pansies, 1st, Miss C. Butcher. Dress spray, 1st, Miss C. Butcher; 2nd, Mrs. G Le Page. Three sweet peas, 1st, Miss L. Butcher; 2nd, South Morang school. Snap dragons, 1st, South Morang school. Arranged basket of flowers, 1st, Mrs. G. Le Page; 2nd, Miss L. Butcher. Three Bouquets, 1st, Mrs. G. Le Page; 2nd, Miss E. H oper. Decorated dinner table, 1st, Miss Phillips; 2nd, Miss C. Butcher.

Fruits.—Three pots jam, 1st, Mrs. C. Le Page; 2nd, Miss B. Thomas. Three pots Marmalade, 1st, Mrs. C. Le Page. Three bottles sauce, 1st, Mrs. C. Le Page. Collection of pickles, 1st, Mrs. Armstrong.

Cookery.—Plate Cream puffs, 1st, Mrs. Anson; 2nd, Mrs. Brock. Six scones, 1st, Miss J. Walsh; 2nd, Mrs. A. Le Page. Dairy butter, 1st, Mrs. Clements; 2nd, Mrs. C. Le Page; Vienna sandwich, 1st, Miss B. Thomas; Thomas; 2nd, Mrs. A. Le Page. Rainbow cake, 1st, Mrs Brock; 2nd, Miss B. Thomas. Collection of cakes, 1st, Mrs. Brock; 2 d, Miss J. Walsh.

Fancy work.—Pillow shams, 1st, Miss Deakin; 2nd, Mrs. Anson. Table centre, 1st, Miss Brown; 2nd, Miss Harkness. Pincushion, 1st, Miss R. Ambl; 2nd Miss C. Butcher. Tea cosy, 1st, Miss Harkness; 2nd, Miss Brown. Cushion, 1st, Miss Phillips; 2nd, Mrs. Gibbling. Three d'oyleys, 1st, Mrs. Smith; 2nd, Miss P. Walsh. Tea cloth, 1st, Miss Harkness; 2nd, Miss Brown. Knitted sox, 1st, Miss Phillips. Pillow cases, 1s, Miss Phillips.

Miscellaneous.—Ironed shirt and collar, 1st, Miss J. Walsh. One dozen hen eggs, 1st, Mrs. Clements. Collection post cards, 1st, Miss P. Walsh. Three bouquets, 1st, Alfred Le Page. Collection wild flowers, 1st, Miss Vera Williamson. Child's frock, 1st, Miss E. Clements. Knitted sox, 1st, Miss E. Clements. Pianoforte solo, 1st, Miss Elliot; 2nd, Miss Clements. Pianoforte solo 1st, Miss D. Clements; 2nd, Miss Amy Sheffield.

BAD LEG FOR MANY YEARS.

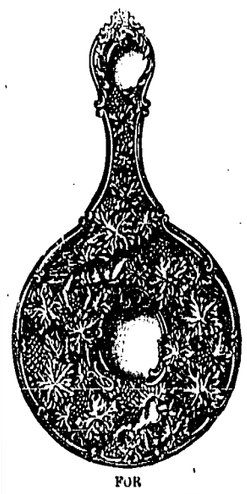
Doctors, Hospital, Hot Springs: All Prove Useless. Despaired of being Cured.—Another Zam-Buk Victory.

Startling proof of the marvellous soothing, healing and curative powers that distinguish Zam-Buk is just to hand from Mrs. S. E. Little, of the City Tea Rooms, Moria Place, Dunedin, N.Z., who suffered agonies with a bad leg, which defied every form of treatment till she found relief in Zam-Buk. Mrs Little says:—

"For many, many years I suffered from broken varicose veins in my legs, which not only interfered with my domestic duties, but was the cause of my being confined indoors for indefinite periods. In fact, it was with difficulty that I could get about at all. I have been under quite a number of medical men, but they all failed to give me relief, and did me no good at all. I have also been under private hospital treatment, and paid two extended visits to the Rotorua Hot Springs, but instead of my condition improving, if anything, it became worse. It was indeed a disheartening and serious state of affairs for me, a young woman, and I was despairing of ever getting anything to relieve when I was advised to give Zam-Buk a trial. With the eagerness of a despairing woman, I at once procured a pot of Zam-Buk and used it freely on my legs, and before the first pot was finished I gained great relief. Thus encouraged I continued with the Zam-Buk treatment, and it is with the greatest pleasure I inform you that the broken veins in my leg have, since using Zam-Buk, ceased to discharge and my leg has healed right up with new, healthy skin. Considering that during the whole time I was under medical treatment I received no relief whatever, it says much for the wonderful healing powers of Zam-Buk when a pot or two produces results that many sovereigns spent in medical skill was absolutely unable to accomplish. I have no hesitation in recommending Zam-Buk as the finest household healing balm."

Zam-Buk—the world's great healer and skin-cure—is obtainable from all chemists and stores at 1s 6d and 3s 6d per pot.

Announcements



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Desires to notify that in consequence of a large increase of pupils in the City he is unable to visit Northcote as heretofore.
Mr. Cole has leased at Austral Buildings, 117 Collins Street, one of the largest and most commodious studios in the City where he will receive all his pupils on and after December 1st, 1909.
The New Year's term commences February 1st, 1910.

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Pupils prepared for Matriculation and other Examinations.
Terms from £1 1s. Preston visited twice a week. Address—
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Loans Negotiated.
Commissions executed.
Valuations made. Auction Sales arranged.
Agents for the Manchester Fire Assurance

NORTHCOTE & PRESTON AUCTION and ESTATE AGENCY.
Gordon Garrett & Co.,
583-585 HIGH ST.,
UPPER NORTHCOTE.
Near Thornbury station.
Insurances Effected. Loans Negotiated. Rents Collected. Valuations Made. Auction Sales Conducted any district. Plans & specifications of houses prepared.

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—16th December. Impromptu Speaking.
H. F. BATTEN, Sec., 150 Charles St.

Independent Order of Rechabites.
Star of Northcote Tent No. 217.
MEETINGS held at Rechabite Hall every alternate Thursday
Next Meeting—23rd December.
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.
38 Raleigh St., Northcote.

Dentists.

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—
163 ELIZABETH ST.,
Between Bourke and Little Collins Streets, MELBOURNE.

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

Announcements

The Preston Pharmacy.
W. G. FEGENT
(late with Ford & Co., Toorak),
Successor to J. Slade,
PHARMACEUTICAL and DISPENSING CHEMIST,
257 HIGH STREET, PRESTON.
THE Dispensing of Physician's prescriptions is a special feature 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.

The Thornbury Grocer
E. W.
INGHAM
563 High St.,
UPPER NORTHCOTE.
Families Waited on for Orders. Delivery daily.
GIVE HIM A TRIAL.

D. J. Cameron,
(Over 12 years with Taceys)
HAVING purchased A. HELM'S BUTCHERING BUSINESS,
411 High St., Northcote
(opposite Redmond's, Ironmonger),
Begs to notify the Public of Northcote and surrounding districts that he will supply them with the
Best Quality Meat
at
LOWEST CASH PRICES.
CORNED BEEF AND SAUSAGES A SPECIALITY.
Families waited on for orders.

GOOD NEWS! FOR Preston Housewives.
Hughes & Jacobs
(late with W. Tacey)
Have commenced business as
Cash & Family Butchers
at
HIGH ST., PRESTON
(Opposite Wilkinson's Timber Yard).
Best of Meat and Small Goods at NORTHCOTE PRICES.
Corned Beef and Sausage a Speciality.
Goods Delivered to Customers at the Shop Cash Prices.

Wanted to Buy.

BOTTLES, Bones, Rags, Zinc, Lead, Brass and Copper. Highest price given. Cash on delivery. Letters receive prompt attention. E. Bishop, Darebin Rd. Northcote.

Business Notices

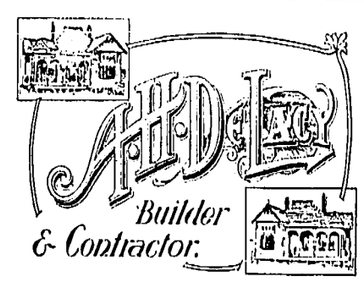
J. J. Spence,
First-Class License, M.M.B.W.,
SANITARY PLUMBER
and
Sewerage Contractor.
Gas and Water laid on.
81 Gooch Street, Northcote

"Narings," Dandenong Rd., Caulfield, 25th October, 1909.
MR. C. SPARLING,
Dear Sir,—My eight-day half-hour striking marble clock, the striking and going mechanism of which was out of order, and which was lying useless for years through several watchmakers failing to repair it, has been satisfactorily repaired in every particular and is now going well.
Yours gratefully,
WILLIAM ROGERSON.
C. SPARLING, Darebin Rd., Northcote
Notified orders called for.

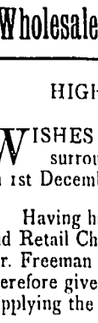
Are you allowing faulty illustrations to be inserted wit your advertising matter?
If so, you are killing the convincing power of your advertisement.
Allow me to give you advice when in doubt as to which class of block to use.
I have every facility for the making and perfecting of half-tone and zinc blocks for newspapers, magazines, and catalogues.
Write or phone 1553 Central.
H. W. VEREY,
479 Collins Street, Melbourne.

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.

A. FREEMAN,
Wholesale and Retail Produce Merchant,
HIGH ST., NORTH PRESTON,
WISHES to notify the residents of Preston and surrounding districts that he will open business on 1st December at above address.
Having had 20 years' experience in the Wholesale and Retail Chaff and Grain Trade, is a guarantee that Mr. Freeman is able to buy at the lowest prices and therefore give customers the benefit of his knowledge in supplying the best article at the lowest price.
Chaff and Grain of all descriptions will be kept in stock and special attention will be given to those who require Fowls' Feed.
Farmers and Dairymen would do well to consult Mr. Freeman before buying Bran, as being a very large buyer he is able to put them on the best footing.
The store is commodious and is being erected by Mr. A. Pepper, of Northcote.

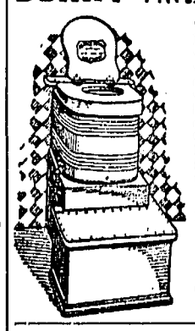


ARTHURTON ROAD, NORTHCOTE.
Plans and Specifications drawn up.
Estimates given for all Branches of the Trade.



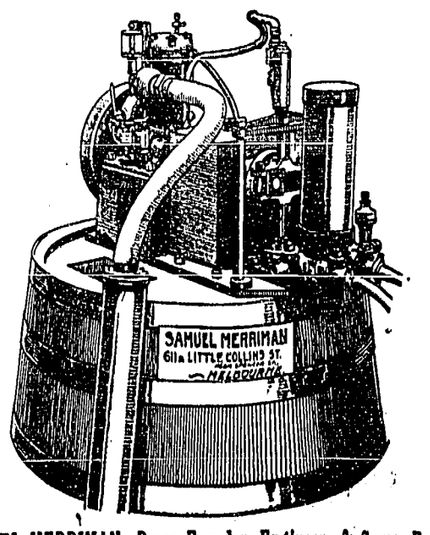
HAVE YOU TRIED?
McALPIN'S
Self-Raising FLOUR.
NEW ELECTRIC PROCESS.
AWARDED FIRST PRIZE.
Ask your Grocer for it.

BERRY PATENT AUTOMATIC CLOSET



The ONLY Rival to Deep Drainage. Best ever invented. Being Automatic Saves all Trouble. Fly, mosquito, and vermin proof. Always clean and sweet. Works like a watch. Guarantee given with each one sent out. No earth, ashes, or sawdust required. Can be used inside as well as outside. Only perfect system yet introduced. Specially constructed for use where not connected with deep drainage. Safeguard against infectious disease. Once purchased, it lasts a lifetime. Cost of disinfectant less than one penny a week. The comfort and cleanliness in using this closet appeal to one and all, and it is worth ten times what we ask for it.
BERRY AUTOMATIC CLOSET CO.
Patentees & Manufacturers. Telephone 1047 City.
ADDRESS: 26 A'BECKETT ST., MELBOURNE,
Where the article can be inspected from 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., Saturdays 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
GIBSON & SON, 479 Law Courts Place, Melb., or BERRY AUTOMATIC CLOSET CO.

Merriman's Power & Spray Pumps
ARE THE BEST.



SAMUEL MERRIMAN, Brass Founder, Engineer, & Spray Pump Maker, 611a Little Lonsdale St., Melb. Phone 1075, City.

Educational.

Westleigh College
(1886).
MICHAEL ST.,

Northcote Leader.

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

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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1909.

Printed and published by the proprietors, H. J. and J. S. Whalley, at their office, 397 High Street, Northcote, in the State of Victoria.

Price 1d

Mr. Bosisto's "Parrot Brand" Eucalyptus Oil SOLD EVERYWHERE

Kruse's Fluid Magnesia

Produce Merchants.

J. A. BOSTOCK,

406 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. Sole Agent for Northcote of Celebrated Sickle Brand of Retorted Charcoal.

A. WATSON'S

HAY & CORN STORE.
Wood & Coke Yard,
is at
354 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.

J. KIDD,

Hay & Corn, Wood & Coal Merchant,
480 High Street, Northcote,
Has on Sale—
Chaff, Oats, Bran, Pollard, Wheat, Maize, Lucerne Chaff,
And all kinds of Poultry Feed.

Agent for Singer's and Pratt's Poultry Food.

Best Box Blocks, Maitland and Pelaw Main Coal.

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.
Ladies' Costumes a Specialty.

PICTURES FRAMED

to Up-to-Date and Artistic Style
at
G. H. JACOBS'
355 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 Specialty.

J. W. DURANCE,

(late of Catensch's) Watchmaker.
Fifth floor Equitable Buildings, Collins St., City.
Repairs Watches of all kinds,
Sells Reliable Levers, Gold, Silver, Gun Metal.
Private Address: 24 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 1854.

W. G. APPS,
UNDERTAKER,
MOOR STREET, FITZROY,
Near Labour-in-Vain Hotel,
Also Branch Bargundy 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 1344.
Estab. 47 years.

Established 1854.
ALFRED ALLISON,
UNDERTAKER,
Head Office—291 Victoria St., Tel. 960. WEST MELB
High Street, Northcote.
Queen's Parade, Clifton Hill.
Tel. 9716.
All Funeral arrangements promptly attended to.
Charges Moderate | Terms Arranged

FIRST-CLASS CHINESE LAUNDRY
AH HAY,
HIGH STREET, THORNBURY
(next Best, Draper.

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.,
The Noted Cheap Cash Grocers,
High Street Northcote, Thornbury, & Preston.

XMAS PRICE-LIST:

New Currants, 6½d	Conversations and Peppermints, 4½ lb.
Best Sultanas, 7½	Xmas Cake, 8½ lb.
New Raisins, 6d lb.	Ginger Cake, 6d lb.
Plum Puddings, 10½, 1/4½ and 2/3	Table Jellies, 10½d doz.
New Figs, 5½d box	Custard Powders, 9½ doz.
,, Dates, 4d lb.	Dried Herbs, 1d packet
Soft shell Almonds, 8½ lb.	Preserved Pineapples, 5½ tin
Barcelona Nuts, 7½ lb.	Preserved Pears, 8½d
Chocolate Mixtures, 6½ lb.	Xmas Cakes, 1/1, 1/3, and 2/- each

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	4d

All Classes of Washing and Ironing done, also MANGLING.
Orders Called for and Delivered. A Trial Solicited.
MRS. FRAWLEY, Proprietress.

Smith & Sons
TRADE MARK REG'D
GOLD MEDALISTS
HAM & BACON CURERS
AND
Small Goods Manufacturers.
'Phone 3601. NORTHCOTE, Vic.

Champion & First Prize Winners for HAMS and BACON at the Royal Agricultural Show, Melb.

All Goods Manufactured under the supervision of the Central Board of Health

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 & Frankforts are just the thing for the Tea & Breakfast Table.

FACTORY & 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.

C. POWER,
Cartage Contractor,
37 CHARLES ST., NORTHCOTE.
Phone 311, Brunswick.

Lorrys, Drays, and Teams for all classes of Carting.

Back Loading from the City a Specialty.

COAL delivered to householders at lowest market rates.

TO Have the Least Possible Expense and the Greatest Comfort in Cooking, use a

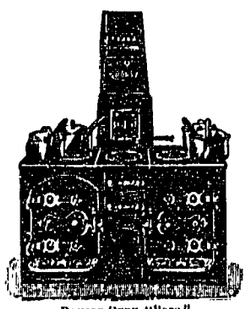
"BOBS"
(burns coal or wood)

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—419 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.

WHAT IS ESSENTIAL
to add to your comfort during the summer months is
A GAS STOVE,
which will save you endless drudgery in the kitchen.

On rental at the rate of 1/6 per month, or—

On Hire Purchase System: Small deposit and from 2/- month.

A GAS STOVE is indispensable and also ensures EFFICIENCY, CLEANLINESS, and RIGID ECONOMY

COOKING BY GAS means a saving of half the labor necessary with other methods, besides keeping the kitchen clean and the temperature down to a minimum.

The Metropolitan Gas Company,
186 FLINDERS ST., MELBOURNE.
Phone Nos. 389, 389, 397, 9713.

Business Announcements

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

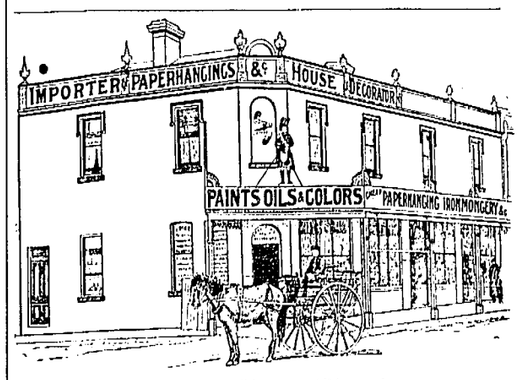
Men's Box Derby Bals., 8/11	Boys' Box, strong wear, 10 to 13, 4/11
Men's knock at nut Bals. 8/6	Youths' strong leather, 1 to 5, 4/11
Youths' Box, strong wear, 1 to 5, 4/6	[illegible]

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.



Above is the well-known establishment of
F. PIKE, General House Decorator,
GRAINER, SIGNWRITER, &c.,
PLENTY ROAD, SOUTH PRESTON.
All kinds of Builders' Ironmongery, Lime, Cement, &c., stocked. Oils, Colors, Glass, &c., at Lowest Rates. The smallest as well as the largest jobs undertaken.
ESTIMATES GIVEN FOR ALL KINDS OF HOUSE REPAIRS.

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
At the triumph they show in the Cutlery Art.
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.
As 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,
They mend it and make it all right on the spot
Your old Umbrella which lets the wet thro',
They'll cover with silk and make Equal to New;
Your Razors, your Sheers, your Knives may be found
So blunt that they need to be properly ground,
Then ble 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.

THE
Orient Marine & Stationary
3½ H.P. **ENGINES** 100 H.P.
Made for all Shipping and Farm Purposes.

Suppliers to the Victorian Government, Ports and Harbours, Health Department, Goldfields Diamond Drilling Co.

Guaranteed for 12 Months.

Particulars on application to
C. S. DEAN,
Motor Manufacturer, Mentone.
'ASH or TERMS. Phone 71 Cheltenham

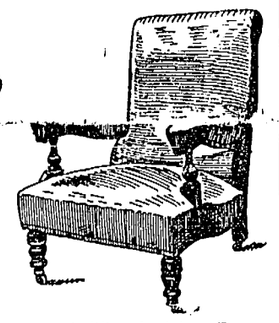
A Trio of Specials

No matter what your purchase from CLAUSCEN'S might be, you can always rely on getting the best workmanship and materials at the lowest possible price. Our 25 years' reputation as Melbourne's Leading House Furnishers stands behind every article we sell. The chairs illustrated are splendid value at the prices—strongly and well put together—artistic, comfortable, and durable—chairs that will give satisfaction.

Splendid Easy Chair, Handsomely upholstered in Tapestry, £2 2/6. Saddlebags, £2 5/. Art Serge Cretonne, £1 17/6.

Furniture for the Drawing Room, Dining Room, and Bedroom at CLAUSCEN'S.

Saddlebag Easy Chair, nicely upholstered in best saddlebag or Utrecht Velvet; numerous shapes and designs, £3 15/-.



A splendidly-made chair, strong frame, nicely upholstered in Art Serge, Cretonne, £1 7/6; Tapestry or Saddlebag, £1.

Clauscen & Co., FURNISHING ARCADE, 194-6 Bourke St., City.

RIDE A "MOA" CYCLE
SWIFT, LIGHT AND STRONG.

We Leave all Others Behind!

Three Grades—
The Moa Special, The Moa No 2, The Moa No 3
£14 10s £12 10s £9 10s

Covers, Tubes, Lamps, Pumps—all Makes and Prices. Large Stock Secondhand Cycles. Repairs, Nickelling, &c.

BUILT AT THE
"Moa" Cycle Works, 218 High St., Northcote.
W. MERSON. Established 1894.

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.

Afternoon Tea Sets from 5/4. 40-piece Tea Sets, 13/11.

Wholesale & Retail Depot—
90 HIGH STREET,
NORTHCOTE SOUTH.

Nurses.

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. Heliers,"
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.

Announcements

PURE BRED POULTRY.
FIRST-CLASS LAYING STRAINS.

BROWN LEGHORN HENS,
Bred from Dookie Competition Pens, mated to cock imported by Mr. H. Bunneman.
Settings, 3/6 and 10/6.

SILVER WYANDOTTES,
Bred from Mr. Bunneman, Dookie Competition Winners.
Settings, 7/6. Unfertile replaced.

YOUNG STOCK FOR SALE.

Correspondence invited.
A. C. W. BAILEY.
WOLLERT, via EPPING.

Eggs! Eggs!! Eggs!!!

THE VICTORIAN EGG-LAYING COMPETITION.
Bastings Street, Northcote,
Under the auspices of "The Poultry and Kennel World."
A Real Object Lesson, the Latest and Most Up-to-Date Method of Poultry-Keeping.

2000 Birds can be kept on an acre on this system.
The Very Thing for Small Holders and Suburban Poultry-Keepers.
Admission 6d (Sunday excepted).
H. McKENZIE, Manager,
"Burnette," Bastings St., Northcote.

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.

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W. Gribble,
CARPENTER and JOINER, HOUSE REPAIRER.
231 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE
(near Methodist Church).

Saws, Scissors, and Lawn Mowers Set and Sharpened.
Venetian Blinds Painted, Re-Taped and Corded.
Vienna Chairs and Furniture Repaired and Stained like New.
Household Requirements in Wood.

AN AUSTRALIAN SPRAY
FOR
AUSTRALIAN ORCHARDS.
AUSTRAL" BRAND
ARSENATE OF LEAD
FOR
CODLIN MOTH
AND ALL LEAF-EATING INSECTS.
IS RELIABLE AND UNIFORM.

1lb. tins at 10d lb.		28lb. ,,	8d lb.
2lb. ,,	10d ,,	56lb. ,,	7½d ,,
7lb. ,,	9d ,,		
14lb. ,,	8½d ,,	112lb. ,,	7d ,,

MANUFACTURED BY
A. J. JENKINS, Chemist,
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 Route (City Section).

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.

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FOR UP-TO-DATE CLOTHING AND REAL GOOD VALUE
go to
INCE BROS.,
TAILORS & OUTFITTERS.
Suits from £3 3/. Trousers from 15/6
Ladies' Costumes a Specialty.
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 the utmost despatch.

Don't forget the only address—
"Our Tailors,"
VEREY & CROSS,
242 SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD.

ARCH. WILKINSON,
TAILOR and MERCER,
Plenty Road & Gaiety Street,
SOUTH PRESTON.

Holiday Season.

Fashion's Soft Summer Shirts in great variety.

Our Straw Hats are a Special Line.

We have a large assortment of TIES suitable for Xmas and New Year Presents. All the Latest Colors in wide ends.

SEE THE DISPLAY IN OUR WINDOWS.

Suits to Order from £2 2s

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. A Work Guaranteed.

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

SEWERAGE!

IS YOUR HOUSE CONNECTED?
If not—
R. H. NELSON,
LICENSED SANITARY PLUMBER
and
SEWERAGE CONTRACTOR,
COLLINS STREET, THORNBURY
(Upper Northcote)

Will give you a GOOD, SOUND and RELIABLE JOB.

TWELVE MONTHS' GUARANTEE GIVEN EACH CONTRACT.

Post Cards promptly attended to.

Estimates for all classes of work submitted.

Water Meters Fixed.

JOHN SHAW,
(Licensed by the M. & M. B. W.)
LICENSED PLUMBER,
GASFITTER,
ELECTRIC & WIRE BELLHANGER,
303 HIGH STREET,
NORTHCOTE.

Estimates Given for Sewer Connections.
Post Cards attended to.

For Sale.

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

Church Notices

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, NORTHCOTE

Sunday Services:
Preacher—Rev. A. C. KELLAWAY, M.A.
Subjects:
11 a.m., "The Resurrection of the Just and the Unjust."
7 p.m., "The Judgment of Quick and Dead."
3 p.m., Rev. C. H. BARNES. Subject: "Home Builders."

HOLY TRINITY, THORNBURY.

Fourth Sunday in Advent.
8 a.m., Holy Communion.
11 a.m., Matins and Litany with Sermon.
4.15 p.m., Service for Men only.
7 p.m., Choral Evensong and Sermon.
Admission of Members of C. of E. Men's Society at Evensong.
Christmas Day: Holy Com., 7.30 a.m. Choral Matins and Holy Eucharist, 11 a.m. Evensong, 8 p.m.

CROXTON METHODIST HALL, Corner Shaftesbury Parade and St. George's Road.

Sunday, 19th December.
7 p.m., Mr. A. JENKIN.
Sunday School at 2.30.

INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Town Hall, Northcote.

Sunday, 19th December.
Services will be conducted as under:
Preacher—Rev. CLARENCE TUMMINS.
Organist—W. P. SINCLAIR.
Appropriate Music.
Sunday School at 3 p.m.

MONDAY, 20th, at 8 p.m., Congregational meeting (members and adherents) in hall, Campbell Grove.

NORTHCOTE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (JAMES ST.)

Sabbath Services:
Rev. R. W. ROCK, morning and evening.
Special Christmas Music:—Morning—"Oh come all ye Faithful." Evening—Anthem (a) "Comfort ye" (b) "And the Glory of the Lord" (Messiah); off-rtory solo, "I know that my Redeemer liveth" (Handel).
Seats free. All cordially welcome.
Young Men's Bible Class at 3. Leader, J. L. Clarke, M.A.

NORTHCOTE BAPTIST CHURCH.

Sunday Services:
Preacher—Rev. T. NICHOL, morning and evening.
All welcome to all services.

NORTHCOTE METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday Services:
Morning, Rev. R. DITTERICH.
Evening, Rev. T. ALDAY.
SPECIAL CHORAL SERVICE in the evening. Christmas Music, including "The Hallelujah Chorus."

All seats free. Strangers welcomed.

NORTHCOTE CHURCH of CHRIST. Rechabite Hall, Westbourne Grove.

Sunday Meetings:
11 a.m., Lord's Supper.
3 p.m., Bible School.
7 p.m., Gospel Service. Preacher—Mr. J. D. LANG.
All Seats Free. No Collection. All welcome.

PRINCE OF WALES' PARK METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday Services:
Morning, Rev. A. DOUGLAS.
Evening, Rev. Mr. HORTON.
All Seats Free. Strangers Welcomed.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. PRESTON.

Services will be held every Sabbath Evening, at 7 o'clock, in Messrs Nicol and Miller's Rooms, Tram Terminus. Presbyterian families and all attached to no Church welcomed.

SOUTH PRESTON METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday Services:
Morning, Mr. H. ROBIN.
Evening, Rev. L. S. MACDOUGALL.
Bright Singing. All welcome.

Announcements.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

Membrey & Deane
(J. G. MEMBREY—J. V. DEANE),
Estate, Financial & Insurance Agents,
SWORN VALUER
(Telephone No. 4082, Central),
Beg to notify that on and after 1st July the business will be REMOVED to more COMMODIOUS OFFICES on the ground floor of LOMBARD BUILDINGS, No. 17 QUEEN ST. (between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane.

Loans Negotiated Promptly. Auctions Arranged.
Fire and Life Insurances Effected.

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

NORTHCOTE & PRESTON AUCTION and ESTATE AGENCY.

Gordon Garrett & Co.,
583-585 HIGH ST.,
UPPER NORTHCOTE.
Near Thornbury station.

Insurances Effected. Loans Negotiated. Rents Collected. Valuations Made.
Auction Sales Conducted any district.
Plans & specifications of houses prepared.

Announcements

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

NUNAN, COLLINS, & CO.,
Furniture, Carpets, Linoleums, &c.,
212 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
And 300-2 Bridge Rd., Richmond.
CASH OR EASY TERMS.

VERANDAH BLINDS, best quality, all complete

3 x 6—White, 1/-	Green, 1/9
4 x 8—White, 2/3	Green, 3/-
6 x 8—White, 3/3	Green, 5/-
8 x 8—White, 4/3	Green, 7/-
10 x 8—White, 5/3	Green, 8/-
12 x 8—White, 7/-	Green, 9/9

Special Bargains in Millinery & Corsets
—FOR CHRISTMAS.—

GREAT REDUCTIONS
In Trimmed Hats.
Holiday Hats, trimmed, from 3/11
Untrimmed Hats, newest shapes, from 1/11.
Children's from 1/-
All leading makes in CORSETS kept in stock from 2/11.
Ribbon Corsets from 1/6.
Short makes from 1/11.

W. ANGLISS & CO,
Family Butchers,
HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.

We invite the housekeepers of the district to inspect our Lovely Show of Meat at Great Reductions in prices.

Mutton from 1½d lb.
Roast Beef from 2d lb.
Corn Beef from 2d lb.
Sausages, 2½d lb.
Mince, 2d lb.

All other Prime Joints Equally Reduced.

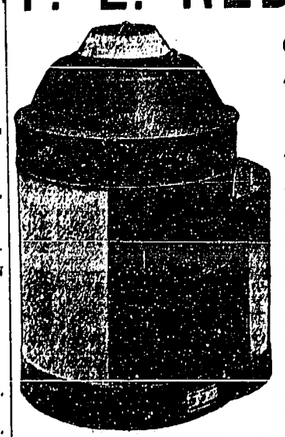
TRY OUR SMALL GOODS.
THEY ARE THE BEST.

One Visit to our Shop will convince you that ours is the BEST and CHEAPEST MEAT in the district.

Thanking you for past favors and soliciting a further continuance of your esteemed patronage.

W. ANGLISS & Co.,
High St., Northcote.

T. E. REDMOND
Ironmonger,
Crockery, Oil and 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 & 10/11.
KEROSENE STOVES,
3/6, 4/11, 15/, 24/., &c.
Water Cans (Green), 1/., 1/3, 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, to any window, 2/11
Best Wire Doors, 3/6, 5/11, & 10/11.
Fly Wire, Green & Galvanised, cheap
4 inch Hose, 6d per foot.
A large shipment of English Cutlery to hand from noted Sheffield makers. Dessert and Table Knives from 5/6 half-doz; Carvers, 2/11, 5/11, 8/11 and 9/11 pair; Scissors, Butchers' & Pocket Knives, Table, Tea and Dessert Spoons and Forks. All my goods are the best quality and will be satisfactory to users.
Telephone 312 (Brunswick).

JUST WHAT'S WANTED.
LARGE BRICK STORE
for
STORING FURNITURE and PIANOS, any quantity.
Apply H. KNIGHT, Furniture Remover, 256 High St., Northcote.

MRS FALLON
(late of Preston Arms Hotel),
WILL be pleased to see old friends and new at her
REFRESHMENT ROOMS,
210 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.
Tea, Coffee, &c., at all hours.

Frost's Livery Stables,
70 MANSFIELD ST., NORTHCOTE.
Fore Hire—Drags and Waggonettes.
Weddings and Parties catered for.
TERMS REASONABLE.

COOPERS,
HIGH STREET, PRESTON,
for
ICE CREAM, SUMMER DRINKS, and CONFECTIONERY.

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MADDOCK, JAMIESON AND LONIE,
SOLICITORS
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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—"Eyllingdale," King William Street, Hawthorn.

St., where Mr. Wilkinson will attend Tuesdays and Fridays from 8.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.

J. L. CLARKE, LL.B.,
BARRISTER and SOLICITOR,
Atlas Buildings, 406 Collins Street Melbourne.
Private address: 77 Roberts St., Northcote.

JOHN PHILLIPS, M.R.V.S.,
VETERINARY SURGEON and EQUINE DENTIST,
92 EARSY ST., COLLINGWOOD.

Open to call at any hour of night or day.

Notices

FORAGE.

TENDERS will be received until Eleven o'clock a.m. on Thursday, 6th January next, for the supply of Forage at the various Police and other Stations in Victoria from the 1st March, 1910, to the 28th February, 1911.

Full details as published in the "Victoria Government Gazette" of 8th December, 1909, copies of which, with tender forms, may be obtained at the stations or from the Secretary, Tender Board, Treasury, Melbourne.

W. A. WATT,
Treasurer.
Melbourne, 30th November, 1909.

Cricket Materials
for Season 1909 10.

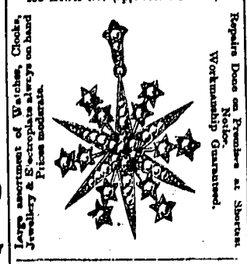
To Secretaries of Local Cricket Clubs and Schools.

We are prepared to supply any Cricket Material you may require at
TOWN PRICES.
BATS from 10/ to 25/.
A Splendid Lot to choose from.
BALLS—Compo. from 6d to 2/6.
" Leather—Duke's from 6/6.
" " Sherrin's, 7/6.
WICKETS, PADS, GLOVES.
Matting and Nets supplied to order.
Bats Sound and Repaired.
Tennis Rackets Re-Strung, &c.
A TRIAL SOLICITED.

T. THOMSON,
NEWS AGENT, &c.,
HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE
(opposite Savings Bank).

The Northcote Jewellers.

Angove & Fettling
232 HIGH ST. (opp. Meth. Church).



Large assortment of Watches, Clocks, Jewellery & Electroplate always on hand. Prices moderate.

Repairs Done on Premises at Shortest Notice. Workmanship Guaranteed.

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

Dress and Fashion.

Miss BRETT,
Ladies' Draper,
289 HIGH ST.,
NORTHCOTE,
For Good Value and Newest Styles at Lowest Prices.

Useful & Suitable
Christmas Presents

Inspection invited.

The Leader

JUSTICE TO ALL

Published Every Saturday Morning

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18.

The Merri Creek. — The Treasurer (Mr. Watt) has informed Mr. Membrey, M.L.A., that it will be impossible to get a Bill through dealing with the Merri Creek before the House closes, but that a Bill will be brought in next session. In the meantime he is prepared to render the municipalities substantial assistance by contributing two thirds of any money spent in permanent works up to £3000. To consider these proposals representatives of the municipalities will be asked to meet the Premier early next week. The Government, we understand, are averse to handing over control of the creek to the Metropolitan Board of Works.

The infants at Northcote State School were made happy yesterday in receiving the contents of the Christmas Tree provided as in other years by the scholars of the sixth class. Amongst others present were the mayor and mayoress and members of the Board of Advice, who much enjoyed an excellent programme of music and calisthenics given by the scholars in the new hall or marshalling room, which is admirably suited for such occasions.

On Wednesday afternoon, December 16, the local branch of the Australian Women's National League held its usual quarterly meeting in the "Liberty Hall." The usual business of the afternoon was [illegible], and Miss Grace Watson, the organising secretary. Both ladies gave addresses specially interesting in view of the forthcoming elections. The chair was taken by the president of the branch (Mrs. Downing). At the close a vote of thanks was proposed by the vice president (Mrs. McKinnon) and seconded by the treasurer (Mrs. F. J. Plant). Songs were enjoyably rendered by Mrs. Moore and Miss Olive Swift, and a recitation by Miss Lily Pitt. Afternoon tea brought a very pleasant meeting to a close.

The fifth annual Xmas tree and children's festival in connection with Pride of Northcote A.O.F. was held in the Northcote town hall on Wednesday evening, December 15. Fully 200 children with their parents were present. It was the most successful celebration the lodge has yet had, Father Xmas specialising it by bringing along his son and another very venerable looking gentleman with a very young voice. The children were delighted and everybody satisfied with the entertainment and bounty provided.

Mr. T. Broadhurst, junr., of Preston, who has been indulging in a few months travel abroad returned from his wanderings on Monday last. Hearing of his arrival Cr. Howe, president of the shire, invited him up to the president's room and gave him a formal but very cordial "welcome home." Responding to the toast of his health, which was proposed by the president, Mr. Broadhurst made an interesting speech. Having travelled a good deal through America he came back, he said, with a much greater respect for the people of that country, for while they let a good deal of "hot air" off at times they were true patriots, and thought there was no country in the world as good as their country and no goods equal to American goods. Australians, Mr. Broadhurst thought, might follow this example with advantage. England, so far as he could judge, appeared to be holding its own very well, but he did not believe they could go on very long without a change in their fiscal policy, which would not now, according to the signs of the times, be very long delayed. Mr. Broadhurst concluded by saying he was satisfied after his travels that there was no country like Australia and thanking the president and councillors for the welcome accorded. Two companions of Mr. Broadhurst's—young New South Welshmen whom he had met on his travels—were also cordially welcomed.

Boy Scouts.—The Northcote troop of the Imperial Boy Scouts held a very successful concert at the town hall on Thursday evening, the hall being well filled. Mr. J. G. Membrey, M.L.A., presided, and congratulated the boys on the formation of a troop in Northcote, and which now numbered some 45 to 50 members. The movement was one that was spreading very fast throughout the Empire. He impressed on the boys the necessity of always remembering their oath to "Honor God and the King," and to obey the scout law and "Help others." They wanted their boys to grow up physically strong, and he urged them to keep clear of the vices which surrounded them, especially warning them of the evil habit of cigarette smoking. Mr. Membrey concluded by wishing the boys every success. The programme submitted met with the evident approval of all present, the item finding most favour being a scouting expedition by the boys of the local troop. Mr. Will Cole made a decided hit with his comic songs, having to respond to double and comic encore. Songs were agreeably rendered by Miss E. Wilson, Miss Verey and Mr. R. Bridger, and recitations were given with good effect by Miss Ada Levey, Miss E. Stevens, and Mr. A. Stone. A couple of fancy dances were also given by Miss R. Brower and Miss M. Ahearne. Mr. Bert Lindon acted as accompanist.

There was very little business at the Northcote court on Monday, when the presiding magistrates were Messrs Tharratt (chairman), Redmond and McIntosh, J's.P. David McNamara, an anti-vaccinationist, had to pay the usual penalty of forty shillings and some applications for dealers' licenses were adjourned for three months. Wood v. Wood—maintenance—did not come on, Mr. Hylah, counsel for Mrs. Wood, being unable to be present.

Preston R.C. School Christmas Entertainment.

The annual entertainment in connection with the Sacred Heart School, Preston, was held in the shire hall on Wednesday night. The hall was packed to overflowing; in fact it would have been next to impossible to have got another one inside the doors. The programme, which was attentively listened to from start to finish, opened with the chorus, "Nocturne," by the pupils, followed by a piano duet meritoriously played by Misses Ralph and Costigan. The next item was the quadrilles, danced by a couple of sets of little mites attired in evening dress, and singing nursery rhymes. The performance proved very enjoyable, as also did a jobaracter song, "Model Policemen," by 13 boys in uniform. The Highland fling, danced by Misses Martin, Hollowood, Clancy and Reardon, was exceptionally well done, and they were rewarded with an encore. Master Johnson brought the "house" down with his comic song, "The Tramp," and responding to an encore favored with "Put a little bit of powder on it." A little sketch, "The Inquest on Cock Robin," was given by the juniors and was well received. Misses Cashman and Ralph joined agreeably in a duet, "Music and her Sister, Song." This was followed by a drama, "The charge of the fairy fair," prettily staged and excellently acted, the principal parts being taken by Miss D. Martin (Fairy Fair), Miss L. Counsel (Snow King), and Master Hollowood (Gnome King), with pupils as attendants. Then came the following items—Dumbell drill, junior boys; piano solo, "Le Carnival," Miss Kelly; song, "Fan Telegraph," junior girls; character song, "The Tramps," senior boys; ribbon dance, pupils; solo, "The Old Countries," Miss Ralph. The second part opened with a piece entitled "New Year's Eve." This proved one of the most enjoyable pieces of the evening, those taking part being Miss Cashman (Father Time), Miss Costigan (Old Year), Miss Kelly (New Year), Miss D. Martin (Spring), Miss Hollowood (Summer), Miss J. Counsel (autumn), Miss L. Counsel (Winter), and the months were represented by Masters Zeven, Clancy, Fitzgerald Reardon (2), Fagan, Langford (2), Conroy, Dowling, and McCaffrey. "Mrs Brown's Luggage," a duet in character, was well given by Masters Hollowood and Doran. The Misses Counsel gave a piano duet, "Qui Vive," and a flower song by the pupils was another very pretty item. One of the most humorous numbers of the evening was a drama entitled "The Enchanted Violin," and it was well carried out by Masters McDonald, Haysom, Doran, Johnson, Fitzgerald, and a jury comprised of senior boys. Miss Counsel carried out the duties of accompanist to the satisfaction of all, and great credit is due to the Misters of the Good Samaritan for so skilfully training the children.

Localisms.

Northcote town council met on Monday evening and struck a rate of 2s 3d in the £1.

The mayor of Northcote (Cr. Hayes) purposes entertaining the children of the town with bioscope and sweets at the Northcote park on Thursday evening next.

An "In Memoriam" service will be conducted to morrow evening at the Independent Presbyterian Church, Northcote town hall.

Miss Evelyn Scotney's farewell concert at Melbourne town hall on Thursday evening was a great success. Given health and strength the young singer bids fair to become one of the world's great prima donnas. Her admirers are enthusiastic enough to believe that she is the one on whom the mantle of Melba will one day fall.

A novel indu try is about to be commenced at South Preston, namely mushroom growing. O e of the disused brickworks clayholes has been taken for the purpose.

Members and adherents of the Northcote Independent Presbyterian Church are requested to attend a congregational meeting in the hall, Campbell grove, on Monday night at 8 o'clock.

The Railway Loan Application Bill, embodying all the local railway improvements enumerated in last issue, has passed the Assembly without amendment and its ratification by the Upper House is only a formality

Some particulars about "Father Christmas at Best and Co's" will be found in our advertising columns.

There is to be a special choral service at the Northcote Methodist Church to morrow evening.

The necessary funds being in hand Preston council propose calling tenders for the more urgent of the works included in the second loan. The street [illegible] the after noon were [illegible], and as soon as the public works committee have considered the matter.

Brilliant and realistic pictures are promised at to-night's bioscope entertainment at the Northcote park and there will also be concerts on Christmas and New Year nights, with special holiday programmes.

Something special for holiday makers and campers —You cannot do better than include some of Johnson's plum puddings and Xmas cakes in your hamper. Obtainable at all grocers.—[Advt.]

The 19th annual demonstration in connection with Alexandra College, Northcote, will be held on Tuesday evening, 21st inst. The programme will include the cantata "The Doll's Wedding," and the prizes will be distributed by Mr. J. G. Membrey, M.L.A.

Hattam and Hattam's Xmas holiday arrangements are as follows:—Closed Saturday (Xmas Day) and Monday (Boxing Day) 25th and 27th inst. [Advt].

Preston residents in the neighbourhood of Bell street on Thursday imagined that a geyser had broken out in their midst. It turned out that one of the large Yan Yean mains on the pipe track had burst. A column of water forty feet high was going up till the turncocks dried up the stream.

Try C. J Watson for all sorts of Christmas and New Year gifts. A very large stock of useful presents for old and young boys and girls. It will pay you to visit 521 High st., Upper Northcote. [Advt.]

Mr. Duncan Love will be the preacher at the Presbyterian Church service to be held to morrow evening at Messrs Nicol, Miller and Co.'s rooms, High street tram terminus,

T. E Redmond, ironmonger, crockery, oil and color merchant, who has made special provision for the Christmas trade, publishes his price-list for several special lines in to-day's issue.

It was sixty years on Thursday since Mr. T. Schwabsch, of High street, Croxton, landed in Melbourne city, which at that time contained no more houses than Northcote does now. Northcote then was almost wholly mere bush. Mr. Schwabsch has spent nearly the whole of the 60 years in Northcote. He is still a hard and energetic worker, but took a day off to celebrate his diamond jubilee as a colonist.

Sinclair, "the people's butcher," advertises to day his specialities for the Christmas season

The opening of the "Palace of Living Pictures" at the tram terminus, Clifton Hill, will take place on Wednesday evening next. The various attractions are set forth in our advertising columns.

Don't forget to ask for Johnson's plum puddings and cakes. They are lovely. Obtainable all grocers.—[Advt].

Are you wondering what to give your friends for Xmas, if so, ease your mind and visit Hattam and Hattam's Xmas fair and select from the following a useful gift at special prices—gloves, handkerchiefs, perfumery, belts neckwear, sunshades, purses, combs, or ties. Also see our Xmas windows. [Advt]

Epping Shire News.

The Epping shire council invite tenders for the supply of 700 yards of metal for the main road, Epping, 100 yards for Morrlang and 10 chains of gravelling, Merriang.

Epping Shire Council meets on Monday. The meeting to finally examine, settle and allow the audited statement of accounts will also take place.

The local attraction for the holidays is a grand bazaar in aid of St. Peter's church, which is to be opened by the president of the shire (Cr. D. McCormack) at 3 p.m. on Monday, 27th (Boxing Day). Prizes are to be given for best comic song (gentlemen) and best sentimental song (ladies). Donations may be sent to the following stall holders, namely:—Mrs. Dea and Miss O'Hern, fancy stall; Miss McCormack and Miss M. Hearn, produce stall; Mrs. M. Keating and Miss Brazil, refreshment stall; Miss Clune, Miss Grimwade and Miss C. Clarke, fish pond; Miss G. Dea and Miss M. Prats, lolly stall.

Property Sales.

Stott and Bastings will offer by auction this day d.f.w.b. villa, 7 rooms, "Wilcannia," Ballantyne street, Northcote.

Ernest Lees will submit to auction to-day Queen Anne villa, 6 rooms, Harold street, Thornbury.

Stott and Bastings, in conjunction with A. Rosenson, will offer by auction this day d.f.w.b. villa, 6 rooms, No. 10 Milton street, also allotment Gower street, Preston.

Removal of Metal from Jessie and Other Streets.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—In your last issue I notice Councillor Dennis's answer to "Indignant Ratepayer." It seems to me, sir, that his explanation of the matter only makes the thing appear worse. Is the council going to allow removal of stone when we cannot get enough for our own requirements? If the stone was good enough for Dennis Bros. it was quite good enough for the streets, which are badly in need of it. This is a matter that should be enquired into, and to clear himself Cr. Dennis should call for a report and satisfy the ratepayers. Some time ago the contractors for a certain right of way in another ward were supposed to have sold some of the material, which caused indignation amongst the ratepayers and some members of the council, and which was thoroughly investigated by the council. As the removal of the stone from the south ward without the authority of the council was against the interests of the town it is only right that the officers of the council should have the opportunity of explaining the matter to the satisfaction of all concerned.—I am, etc.,

OBSERVER.

Your Holiday Hat

Why not a soft, Lounge Felt? The comfort, the coolness, and the dressy effect they impart make them the ideal hats for summer wear.

Get one for the holidays—it will do you for Christmas, and afterwards. We have them in Greens, Drabs, Grays, and Browns. Look in and try one on.

Wardrop's Corner,
SMITH STREET, COLLINGWOOD.

HOLY TRINITY TENNIS CLUB.

On Tuesday evening last Holy Trinity Tennis Club held a grand concert in the Northcote town hall to raise funds for the improvement of their court. There was a full audience and the event passed off most successfully.

The mayor (Cr. Hayes), who presided, told those present that the tennis club owed its existence entirely to the efforts of the Rev. T. C. Robinson, who is its president. The club had only been in existence one season, but had a fairly successful time. The membership had been closed at 50, and financially the club was only one penny on the wrong side. The present season promised to be successful from all points of view. Five matches had been played since the establishment of the Association, of which the club had won three. Socially the club was also doing well, the picnic on Cup Day having been most successful. He might say he had just started playing tennis himself and found it a very nice game. (Hear, hear.) In taking up such a sport the church was doing a very good thing. It led many young people to take an interest in church work who might not otherwise do so.

The programme submitted contained many entertaining items, chief amongst them being the humorous sketch, "A Pair of Lunatics," in which Miss Maud Kinsman took the part of Clara Manners, and Mr Jas. Davey Capt. Geo. Fielding. It was capitally well done, each of the performers showing marked ability and causing a full measure of mirth to flow from the audience. Mr. Horace L. Jones was also excellent in his mimicry of birds and animals. His imitation of the "Laughing Jack's" cachinatory efforts being quite a wonderful performance. Mr. Jones also diverted the house for a while with some neat conjuring. The Amphion Orchestra is fast becoming a musical body worthy its name. It contains now about a score of competent players, who under their conductor, Mr. Pois, are capable of achieving very pleasing and very excellent results. They were also programmed on Tuesday evening for three items —"Bohemian Girl," "Overture to Tannhauser," and "Overture to Tancredi," all of which went well, the last named especially so. A couple of recitations were given by Miss Voni Medlyn, one humorous and one serious, the latter suiting the reciter best. Mr. Will Davies gave so good and spirited a rendering of "The Yeoman's Wedding" that he was heartily recalled, a favour which the audience was not at all lavish in bestowing on the musical items during the evening. In response Mr. Davies sang very nicely "My Little Irish Girl." He also sang with his sister, Miss Jessie Davies, the favourite duet, "Maying," which went well. Miss Jessie Davies sang "Roses." Miss Partridge, a young singer with a voice of much promise contributed "Only a Flower" and "At My Window." Miss Hodgson gave and expressive rendering of "Idle Words," and Miss Vida Lamb and Messrs Paley Hammett and F. Moorhouse also kindly contributed items. Miss B. Bonyer was a competent accompanist. At the conclusion a hearty vote of thanks was passed—on the motion of the vicar (Rev. T. C. Robinson) and Mr. Munro—to the artists for their much appreciated services and to His Worship the Mayor for presiding.

PUPILS' CONCERT.

Last Monday night the pupils of Miss M. V. Maguire, pianoforte teacher, gave their annual concert in the Northcote town hall in the presence of a full attendance and a stirring atmosphere. In the main the programme was composed of pianu solos, duets, and trios, which were performed in a very creditable manner, some of the pupils being remarkably well. The selections are as follow:—Overture, "Le Carnival," Misses V. O'Neill and Eilleen Kelly; solo, "Silvery Echoes," Miss Blanche Tonkin; solo, "Melodie D'Amour," Miss Hazel Merson: duet, "Le Cloches de Cornville," Misses M. and L. Maloney; trio, "Marche dur Flambeux," Misses R. Stevens, M. and W. Neylon; duet, "Witches Flight," Misses A. Wynne and M. Lawson; solo, "Echoes of Lucerne," Mr. F. Biddley; duet, "Clementi Sonatine. No 2," Misses E. Nugent and E. Buttler; solo, "Sirens' Song," Miss D. Baker; solo, "Invitation La Waltz," Miss Eileen Kelly; duet, "Obiron again beautiful bells," Misses M. and L. Moore; solo, "Hungarian Dance," Miss W. Neylon. Fancy dances were daintily performed by Miss Rita Kelly, Miss M. Kelly and Miss K. Hollowood, and a duet in character. "Rory O'Moore and Kathleen Bawn" was rendered by Masters T. Lennox and H. Neylon in a style that commanded an enthusiastic encore. The juniors were assited by Mr. Curry, who sang "Out on the Deep," Miss Curry, who rendered very nicely, especially for a first appearance, "The Flight of Ages," and Mr. J. Gatens was recalled for his rendering of "Lighterman Tom" and responded with "In Old Madrid,"

The mayor (Cr. Hayes) presided, and during an interval in the programme presented Miss Irene Kelly with a gold medal for gaining the theory examination grade IV Melbourne University. The mayor also presented medals to the following:—Baby Stevens, Kathleen O'Neill, Leslie Stevens, M. O'Neill, L. Maloney, F. Stevens, and M. Maloney. The mayor congratulated the young ladies on their success, urged them to continue in their studies, and to become even more proficient during the next twelve months.

On behalf of the pupils the mayor presented Miss Maguire with a very pretty gold brooch, set with rubies and pearls, as a mark of their affection and in appreciation of the training they had received and on the motion of Mr. Neylon a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the mayor for presiding.

PUPIL'S PARTY.

Miss Queenie Parker, A.L.C.M., gave her annual pupils' party at the Friendly Societies' hall on the 11th December. The weather being most pleasant the pupils were enabled to enjoy themselves to their heart's content, races and other games being freely indulged in. Tea was taken at 5.30 p.m. in the hall (over 50 sitting down to the tables, which were most artistically laid), full justice being done to the good things provided by the hostess, who was ably assisted by several willing friends. At 8 p.m. the senior pupils and friends arrived, and dancing and games were entered into with great spirit, interspersed with fancy dances, songs, piano solos, mandoline, violin, and piano trios, contributed by the pupils to the evident satisfaction of all present. Previous to supper being partaken of Mr. Byeroft said he had a very pleasant duty to perform and that was to ask Miss Parker to accept a very handsome silver Dorothy Bag as a mark of esteem from her pupils. Miss Lizzie Petry then presented the bag, which was suitably acknowledged by Miss Parker's father. Dancing and games went merrily on until the company broke up at 11.30 by joining hands and singing "Auld Lang Syne." Three cheers for the hostess finally brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

SOUTH PRESTON METHODIST CHURCH.

On Wednesday afternoon last a bazaar was opened at the Bradford hall to raise funds for the repair of the South Preston Methodist Church. There was such an excellent response that about £40 will be netted. The opening ceremony was performed in the presence of a goodly company by the president of the shire, Cr. J. P. Howe, who is certainly quite an adept at such a function. He expressed his great pleasure at being asked to perform such a pleasing duty, praised the spirit which prompted the people to make the effort and gave great credit to the ladies for the admirable way they had carried out their share of the work, which is usually the lion's share on such occasions. He hoped that they (the ladies) would exercise their fascinations in such a way that nothing would remain in the pockets of visitors while any of the beautiful articles remained on the various stalls. In declaring the fair open he trusted that every possible success would attend the efforts of all concerned. Miss Ivy Hurlstone having pinned a button-hole in the president's coat, Mr. Gray, circuit steward, and Mr. Bowe, trustee, moved a hearty vote of thanks to president Howe for his kind assistance. The very pleasant social spirit which marked the opening of the fair continued to the end, with the very excellent result above-mentioned. The following were the stall holders:—Useful—Mesdames Walker, Blackburn and Saunders. Fancy—Mesdames Pike, Watson, and Miss Pike. Refreshment—Mrs. Allchin, Misses Hurlstone, Bolt and Dimmodle. Flower—Mrs. Wilkinson, Misses Thorpe, Smith, Kent, Belnkin. Xmas tree—Mrs. Hurlstone, Misses Pike and Saunders, Lolly—Misses Brangrove, Walker and Wilson. Fish pond, Dips, Tea cream, Post office—Scholars from Sunday school.

Songs were rendered during the progress of the fair by Mrs. Zwar and Miss Hull and Messrs Brangrove, Hull and Wardell and recitations by Miss B. Walker and Miss Jean Gray.

CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUNDS.

OPENING CEREMONY.

In the establishment of a children's playground in the Northcote park the South Ward Ratepayers' Association has put another feather in its cap, and given still further evidence of what a properly organised body can accomplish when it has the welfare of the town and the pleasure of its inhabitants at heart. The work done by the association in the past has been commended on every hand, and this endorsement by the public has encouraged its members to keep their shoulders to the wheel. Having been instrumental in planting many of the streets with trees, beautifying High street with flower gardens, erecting a couple of drinking fountains for the convenience of thirsty travellers, and establishing playgrounds for children in the park, the association has other projects in view—such as improving the approaches to St. George's road and the laying down of a municipal bowling green in the park. Works such as these raise the status of the town and make it very much more attractive to those who make their home in our midst. We congratulate the association on its present record of achievement and wish it every success in all similar enterprises it feels called upon to take in hand, feeling sure that it will always receive the ready support of ratepayers.

For some months past the association has been engaged collecting the necessary funds to establish a children's playground in the Northcote park. Other municipalities have provided these privileges for the children, and [illegible] the association is realising that the physical perfection of the rising generation largely depended on healthy outdoor recreation, considered they could not do better than follow the good exemple of other municipalities. Sufficient funds having been raised tenders were let for the construction of two substantial swings (one for boys and one for girls), a see saw, and a sand-bath 15ft. x 30ft. filled with Carrum sand.

The honor of declaring the play-ground open devolved on the mayoress (Mrs. Hayes) and the interesting little ceremony took place last Saturday in the presence of a large number of ratepayers and a crowd of children.

The president of the association (Mr. C. Jenkins) said that their little play-ground was not all that it might be; it was not all they wished it to be; yet it was something they all took a pride in—(applause)—and something they could add to as opportunity allowed. (Hear, hear). The association had done a great deal of good work. They commenced by initiating a scheme of street tree-planting; then came the work of beautifying the entrance to the town, which is the best advertisement the town ever had; followed by the erection of two attractive-looking drinking fountains; and last of all was the children's play ground. (Applause). The association had many energetic members who were ready at all times to do anything that would improve the town, and they were greatly indebted to their old friend and honorary collector (Mr. Cornwall)—(applause)—and to Messrs Brothers and Mason for their excellent work. They had other projects in view, and were at present holding weekly entertainments to raise the necessary funds for improving the entrance to St. George's road. (Hear, hear). The president, before calling on the mayoress, intimated to the children that there was a coin—or coins—of considerable monetary value deposited in the sand bath and those who chanced to find them could claim them as their own. The children, however, would require to wait till the ceremony was over before making a search.

The mayoress received a most cordial welcome. She said that it gave her very great pleasure to open the first children's playground in Northcote and hoped that it would be the forerunner of many more in other parts of the town. (Applause). The mayoress also congratulated the association on the splendid work it was doing and in declaring the playground ready for use wished it every success. (Applause).

Cr. Dennis then made a presentation to Mr. H. Cornwall, the honorary collector of the association. Mr. Cornwall, said Cr. Dennis, had collected funds for tree-planting—for improving the inner portion of the park—for constructing the rookeries—and he had succeeded in getting a grant from the late Sir Thomas Bent, when other agencies had failed, towards the High street improvements. He had very great pleasure, on behalf of the association, in presenting a gold medal to Mr. Cornwall for the very valuable work he had done. (Applause).

Mr. Cornwall, who was deeply affected, thanked the association for its kindness and trusted that it would continue to receive the support of the ratepayers, even in a more generous manner than it had done in the past.

Cr. Bainbridge was asked to move a vote of thanks to the mayoress. He said that he was glad to be present and was so well impressed with the playground that he hoped others would be erected in other parts of the town. Cr. Bainbridge said they hoped to have a municipal bowling green in the park before long, which would be a great attraction, and he would like to see the mayoress open it. (Applause). He had much pleasure in moving that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded the mayoress for her kindness in opening the playground.

Cr. Lees said they were all delighted to be present at the opening of the much-talked-of playground. It was situated in a lovely spot. Indeed he did not know another recreation ground so beautifully situated, and he was sure the amusements provided would be very greatly appreciated by the children. (Applause). He joined with them in expressing his thanks to the mayoress and had pleasure in seconding his colleague's motion.

The mayor (Cr. Hayes) returned thanks on behalf of the mayoress. The playground was a splendid idea and the work redounded to the credit of the association. He was certain it would be the forerunner of many others and he would very much like to see a start made in the north ward. Referring to the bowling green project, he was afraid that it would not be completed in time for the mayoress to open it but he wished them good luck. (Applause).

The mayoress, accompanied by the mayor and president, next visited each of the amusements. They were held secure by chain and padlock and the mayoress set them free to the delight of hundreds of impatient children, all eager to have a swing, a see saw, or a gambol in the sand.

Afternoon tea was served in the pavilion to a large number, and then Mr. Jenkins formally handed over the keys of the swings to the mayor, remarking that he hoped the council would always maintain the playgrounds at a high standard.

The mayor in accepting the keys on behalf of the council said that he did so with much pleasure, as he regarded playgrounds as a step in the right direction. The old proverb, "Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do," was true in regard to children, and while they were engaged in healthy play they were avoiding mischief in the streets.

The toast of Parliament was proposed by Mr. W. Dennis

FLASH DICK.

Red Creek was at work. Beneath the broiling sun men dug, washed, and—cursed. Dug, washed, and chuckled with a grim joy if the residue at the bottom of the "cradle" showed something more than a mere particle of the precious gold they were seeking.

Three shots, fired in rapid succession, broke the monotony of the never-ceasing sound of rocking "cradles" and the hum of many voices.

The mail was in sight!

Tom Blain's face had paled, and for a few seconds he stood trembling with nervous excitement.

"Better stick at it, Tom." His partner, Jim Towers, had ceased work and stood watching him with a look of compassion, and when he spoke his rough voice had a genuine ring of sympathy. But Tom shook his head negatively.

"I must see for myself—once more, old man," he replied. "The suspense—the waiting here—is worse than the truth."

"As you will, lad." He turned to resume work, hesitated, and stood with uplifted spade.

"It's maybe six months since you heard—from her last?" he queried.

"Eight!" corrected Tom.

"Eight!" repeated the old man, with a sigh. "And since then—since then you have gone on working and hoping, hoping and working; every grain of gold has lit up your face, and set you off dreaming of the old country—and her. She ain't worth it, Tom. You mark my words—she ain't. Now, don't get nasty. The girl who refuses to answer your letters when she knows you are working like a nigger in this God-forsaken hole, and all for her, ain't true. Forget her, Tom."

"This mail will tell me the truth, Jim," he said. "I've written to friends, and they will tell me—the truth."

Something unusual was taking place at Broker's. A man had dashed up on horseback, and yelled out a message that brought the habitual drink-sodden loafers from the bar to the door with a strange eagerness. It was whispered round the diggings, and while some shouted out their indifference, others, younger, stood with surprised, incredulous faces and waited.

Away in the distance came the sound of hoofs. Two men, armed to the teeth, galloped up. They were recognised as part of the escort of the "bank" to the nearest town, and hailed with a roar of eager questions, but before they could answer the rest of the party reined up, and an eager silence ensued.

There before them, seated erect and jauntily upon a hard-ridden horse, was a girl—a rosy cheeked, pretty girl, whose color came and went and whose big brown eyes dropped modestly and nervously before their gaze, and Red Creek marvelled at the sight.

With a half-frightened expression she glanced rapidly over the upturned faces and then at the chief of the escort. Jagger was a rough, brave, reckless fellow, afraid of no one, but before her appealing look he flushed and shuffled awkwardly.

"I told you so, miss," he blurted out; "there ain't no Red Creek City, it's little better than a camp, and a queer one at that." With a sweep of the arm he indicated the surroundings. "What there is you can see," he continued, "that's bad enough, but what you can't see is a lot wuss."

Her eyes filled, but she forced back the choking sob, and tried to smile.

"Surely, there must be a mistake. Are there not two Red Creeks? He told me——"

"He told you!" Jagger interrupted viciously, "and I've told you, missie, told you so 'fore we started and lots of times on the road. Red Creek ain't bin discovered long, and everybody is floating t'wards it now. There ain't no law, no order, no—nothing, and him as wrote you about the fine buildings, the church, and theatre, persuaded you to come out here and marry him, he's a—well—he's—Great Scot! If you were only a fellow I'd let you have his character in two minutes."

She shook her head negatively, but at the same time she trembled. Intuitively, she felt Jagger was right, and yet the truth was too fearful to acknowledge.

"You don't believe it?" Jagger questioned, in despair. "Then there is nothing else to do but make inquiries."

He turned to the expectant, listening crowd with a grim smile. "Boys," he commenced, "I don't know what you call yourselves out here, but if any of you answer to the title of Hon. Donald Bannister when in civilised regions, let him come forward. He's wanted."

"The Honorable!" The title passed from mouth to mouth with sarcastic chuckles. "An 'Honorable' in Red Creek!" They chuckled deeper and then, laughed outright. But no one came forward.

Jagger, brave as he was, turned pale. "Better go back with the 'Bank' escort," he muttered.

"No!" she answered him decidedly. "No—I must stay—here. There is some mistake, he will come," but the words ended with a sob.

Meanwhile Tom Blain had received his letter, and heedless of the crowd had hurried back to his claim. As he read the contents his face flushed and he turned a sickly white.

"I am sorry Tom, but you had better accept the inevitable without upsetting yourself. Last summer the Hall was crowded with guests, amongst the number being the Hon. Donald Bannister. Somehow he became acquainted with Nell, and then it was a case before very long of "Absence makes the heart grow fonder"—of the other the heart grow fonder"—of the other fellow. I really did think Nell would honestly, I don't blame her. Bannister was one of those plausible individuals who exercise a strange fascination over the girls. He was always immaculately dressed, and in appearance a perfect gentleman, and when they took to walking out together half the girls in the village were mad with envy. Ultimately, however, he disappeared suddenly, and there were ugly rumors of a row at the Hall and cheating at bridge. Nell for a time seemed heartbroken, but presently letters bearing a foreign postmark kept arriving and she brightened up. Finally, to cut it short, she left here two months ago to go out and marry him."

"And that," concluded Tom, "is the end of it."

Before Towers could reply a shot, followed by a girl's scream, startled them. They rushed from the claim as a confused roar of voices arose. Men were saddling horses and galloping out of the camp; others, on foot, were scurrying about, yelling with a mad excitement.

As they hurried forward Tom and his partner became imbued with some of the prevailing excitement. Their faces flushed and instinctively they loosened their weapons. A man dashed up on horseback, and in reply to their eager shouts he reined in.

"Flash Dick has been tracked!" he yelled; and spurred on his horse with a savage glee.

"Flash Dick"—horse-thief, sharper, and finally gold-dust sneaker—had dared to approach the camp again. With wondering faces they turned, and suddenly stopped.

Jagger and his men, still escorting the terrified, half-fainting girl, were approaching; and the recognition was mutual.

"Nell!" gasped Tom, in astonishment; and Jagger stopped.

"Is this—him—the 'Honorable?'" he queried, eagerly; but the girl could not reply. She covered her face, and for a moment, to Jagger's disgust, the sobs overwhelmed her.

Tom, standing by her side, waited. His heart felt well nigh bursting, and speech was, for a time, impossible.

"Nell," he muttered, hoarsely, "let me—help you."

"No, no—not now. You do not know—you——"

"I know—all," he interrupted, with a forced calmness.

She hesitated, and glanced round the friendless camp with an expression of hopeless despair.

"You'll find—him?" she begged; "there has been some mistake," and Tom, with blanched face and trembling voice, promised to do his best.

An hour later they were in the cabin together. Just outside Jim was making a temporary shelter for his own and partner's use.

"You—forgive me," she whispered, and Tom, with a sigh, changed the subject.

"What is he like?" he questioned, hoarsely; "I've promised!"

She opened a packet of papers, and, taking out a photograph, lay it on the bench before him.

He took it and choked back a cry. "Thanks," he replied, and hurried out of the cabin.

"Jim!" he whispered, in a terror stricken voice, "look—Bannister—her lover!"

And Towers, holding the photo at arm's length before him, stared at it fearfully. "Yo gods!" he muttered—"Flash Dick!"

A month passed—a month in which Tom suffered mental torture. So far Bannister had eluded capture, but the scent appeared too strong to last. He was in the hills somewhere, and the search never ceased. Nell remained confined to the cabin, dropped daily. One of the few women in the camp had offered her services, and hour after hour they sat silently watching the diggers in the distance.

Tom evaded her as much as possible. At first her eyes brightened as he entered, but when his downcast expression told her he was still unsuccessful, the light soon died away.

Tom could stand it no longer. He took Jim Towers aside and unburdened himself. "To see her sitting there, and to know that he is being hunted over the hills like a dog, it is terrible. He may be caught, and then she would know. They would bring him to camp, and it would kill her!"

"Seems to me she can't stay here much longer."

"No! She must go, at once. Jagger's escort leaves to-morrow, and she must go."

After her departure the time passed very slowly. Jagger acted as the bearer of letters between them, but they contained very little of interest. A change came over the partners. Tom bought a horse and took to scouring the country alone. Time after time he came in thoroughly dejected and tired out. Jim did not complain. He worked all the harder to make up for his partner's absence, and regularly shared the dust he had gained.

Eventually Tom was successful when the rest of the camp had failed. Where the scent was strongest he left his horse unguarded. The hours passed and the light faded, but he never stirred, and when the moon was high in the heavens his ruse succeeded. A man, crouching on all fours, came creeping from the shadow of the rocks towards the horse. Instantly Tom covered him.

"Hands up!" he shouted, and Bannister's hunt-scared face turned a ghastly hue.

"For Heaven's sake, another chance," he groaned.

"Come here," ordered Tom, and, trembling, slowly he obeyed.

There was no time for many words. The miners might come up in that direction at any moment, and escape would be impossible.

"You want a chance?" Tom whispered, hoarsely. "I give it to you. Take that horse, and," throwing him a bag of dust, "that will realise enough for a start. Go!—and—try and make yourself worthy of—her."

Bannister's astonishment gave way to ill-concealed, jubilant satisfaction. For a moment he stood dazed with his good fortune, and then, turning his head aside, he smiled contemptuously.

"Ah! you do this for her?" he questioned, eagerly. She came—she is here."

"Never mind where she is," said Tom, angrily. "Start afresh, keep straight, and then—you will find her waiting."

The sound of galloping hoofs startled them.

"Go!" he continued, "and if more of that"—he indicated the gold dust—"is required, meet me here. I will manage it somehow—for her."

The next moment he was alone. Bannister had sprung into the saddle and spurred his horse into a mad gallop. He chuckled sarcastically, and when some little distance separated them he laughted audibly.

"Poor love-struck fool," he muttered. "And she has come, and is staying—where? At the nearest town, of course." He laughed again, and estimated the weight of the bag of gold dust with surprised delight.

The months passed, and the partners drifted more apart. Nell had ceased writing, and Tom was morose and restless. He worked eagerly, feverishly during the day, and undermined his strength by periodical midnight excursions. He was ill—ill in mind and body, and Jim, not caring to remonstrate, went about his work with a heavy heart.

* * *

Three days later, away in the distant town, a man, Bannister, leaned negligently over a pretty girl—Nell. He was dressed immaculately, as before, and looked every inch a perfect gentleman.

"You are silent, dear," he murmured. "Surely, now that the necessity for waiting has gone, you will make me happy and say when you will be—my——"

She raised her eyes to his, and he saw that they were dimmed with tears. "Don't, please, don't. I am tired—to-night."

He called a cab and left her. Nearly every night for two months he had done the same thing.

Dressed as she was she threw herself on the bed and sobbed bitterly. The morning broke, and wild eyed she arose—the night had passed. "It has been a dream—a dream," she sobbed, "and now—now—not too late, thank God—the awakening has come."

His photograph stood on the table. She clutched it, and the next second it was thrown in the fireplace. "Tom—oh, Tom," she moaned, "why don't you come—come back again?"

A loud, imperative knocking downstairs alarmed her. The door was opened and she was quickly summoned. The room was filled to overflowing with a crowd of men—police, Jagger and his escort, and at their head, travel-stained and haggard-faced, stood Jim Towers.

"Where is—Bannister?" he questioned, gruffly.

"Who?"

"Bannister—Bannister," roared Jim. "Flash Dick!"

She recoiled as though struck. "Oh, heavens—and—Tom?"

"Arrested—maybe dead!" He forced back the frenzy of rage that threatened to overpower him. "Ruined himself for a vile skunk like Bannister," he shouted, "and is now in the hands of the diggers. 'Grand Hotel,' yo gods! Quick, Jagger; and for Heaven's sake get the dust—get the dust. Steady lass."

He caught the half-fainting girl and led her to a seat as the escort dashed away.

"Take me to him—take me to him, Jim," she wailed. "It's been a dream, a long, terrible dream; but—the awakening has come."

He beckoned, and, clutching a cloak, she followed him outside. Horses were in readiness, and mounting they waited.

Presently a man came galloping down the street with a yell of triumph.

"In time, Jim—just in time. Jagger has the dust intact, and the police have Bannister." He pulled his horse round sharply. "Ready?" he shouted. "Right—and now for the race."

As they left the town Jim told her his tale in a few words; he told her first, in rough, callous words, the true character of Bannister, and then, with trembling voice, how Tom had tried to reclaim him. "He used him as a tool," said Jim, fiercely, "and every time they met Tom's savings sank lower. First it was the difficulty of getting an honest living, next some fancy scheme of floating a company to work the mines, and then, when the money was nearly exhausted and Tom could not meet his inordinate demands, it was—you. You were ill, lacking the necessities of life, and he could not stand that appeal. He came near the camp the other night and lay in waiting for Tom until long after midnight. All was silent except one tent. There some diggers who had 'struck it rich' were finishing a drunken carouse, and their maudlin, hoarse voices told the state they were in. Tom came with a little bag of dust—dust he had begged from me—for your sake, Bannister laughed at its smallness, and Tom, with wild despair, returned. Next morning lucid, fearful shrieks told the news—the diggers and even Mohutosh's cronies had fallen, and tracks were plain. The man who had come on horseback got clear, but Tom—in ten minutes a howling mob had seized him and lynching seemed certain. With the whole camp against me I stood up and begged his life. Jagger came, with his escort, and together we begged—two days to prove his innocence."

With pale, set face she urged on her horse, and with the escort closing in around her they galloped forward. The night passed, and fresh horses were obtained and the ride continued. With eyes fixed upon the distant hills, and haggard, tortured faces, Jagger and his men plunged madly on. And, in their midst, erect upon her horse, but deadly pale, Nell urged them to greater speed.

Away on the distant sky-line a man closed his glasses with a snap. What appeared to be a little cloud of dust was rapidly approaching. Evidently satisfied, he clambered down the rocks and mounted his horse. The beast was fresh, and when out upon the open plain she stretched herself out and seemed to fly.

The two days begged by Jim Towers expired at sunset, and as the light slowly faded the excitement was fearful. Tom, closely guarded, was brought out. He was pale, but apparently unconcerned. He seemed tired of it all, and watching the setting sun with an expression of something like impatience. The howling imprecations of the crowd seemed unheard, and the waiting became unbearable.

The man on horseback dashed up to Broker's saloon. Simultaneously there arose a questioning roar of "Police?" and then a weird silence. They were not to be baulked of their prey.

"No!" shouted the man, "Jagger's played the game—they're coming with the girl, and—maybe proof."

All eyes were immediately strained across the plain. The cloud of dust was approaching, but slowly now. The gallop had become a walk, and the hard-ridden horses were almost done.

Sunset. Half the camp rushed to the ravine where Tom stood, with a yell of mad delight. The escort heard it, and with an answering shout they made a last despairing effort. The horses broke out into a jerky canter, and Broker's was reached.

Jagger threw the bag down before them. "The proof!" he gasped. "Flash Dick had it. He's safe—in gaol."

There was a pause, a portentous pause that might mean anything. With a heart-broken scream Nell jumped from her horse. The serried ranks parted and she staggered forward. The guards saw her coming and hesitated. And then—an imperative order thundered from the crowd, and Tom stood free.

Bewildered, he watched her reeling towards him, and the next moment, with a choking shriek of joy she lay half fainting in his arms.

And Tom, as he clasped her to his breast, knew that the night had passed and the awakening had come.

Two days later Nell returned to the distant town to wait. But the waiting won't be long. Before she started the diggers, led by old Jim Towers, gathered round. As they filed past her each man thrust out his hand to grasp hers in a nervous, silent grip, and at the same time the little heap of gold dust and minute "nuggets"—their wedding present—grew steadily higher.

DID METHUSELAH DIE YOUNG?

Curiosities of the Jewish Calendar.

There has always existed a certain amount of doubt, even among the believers in the literal truth of the Bible, concerning the great age to which the Jewish patriarchs are recorded as having lived. The problem of reducing these long periods to something near the allotted span has often occupied the attention of students, and some of the theories which have been evolved are dealt with in the recent issue of the "Jewish World."

It is surmised that in the earliest times the moon was used for reckoning time. Counting by months, however, must have grown cumbersome, and a longer division became absolutely necessary. There is a theory that the first years were composed of five months of thirty days each, the limit of five being derived from the fingers of one hand. It is also contended that before the five-months' year there was a one-month year; in other words, that a month, the period of a moon cycle, was termed a year. An endeavor has been made to prove this by working out the great ages of the first men in the Bible.

Thus Adam's 930 years of life, calculated at twenty-nine and a-half days, the period of a "lunation," a year works out at seventy-five and a-quarter years, which must strike many people as a reasonable period of existence.

By this reckoning, be it noted, Methuselah loses his famous record, for his 969 reputed years are whittled down to 78¾. Poor Methuselah thus became quite rejuvenated, a veritable Faust.

Excuse for this rearrangement is found in the Psalmist's limit of life to three score and ten years, and it is maintained that between the times of Noah and David no such extraordinary change could have taken place as to reduce the life of man by eleven-tenths.

The next stage in the marking of time is supposed to have been the discovery of the equinoxes in spring and autumn, when day and night were exactly of the same length. This would give five months of thirty days each. On this basis of a year of 150 days, Abraham's 175 years work out at 72 and Isaac's 180 at 74.

The twelve months' year began with the Egyptians, who saw that a complete period was made up of the two "years," in one of which the days were longer than the nights, and in the other the nights longer than the days.

An agreeable speech, a tender word, a compliment now and then, are much appreciated, even by your own family, softening the rough roads in life and making an encouragement which needed.

MAN'S WEAKNESS.

It used to be said in the days gone by that "man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn," but we may, nowadays, modify this somewhat, and say man's inhumanity to himself burdens his life with misery, shortens his days, and impairs his usefulness. Singular as it may appear, man's worst enemy is himself. As a rule, he begins the deadly work early in life, prosecutes it, in the name of pleasure, with all the ardor and earnestness of youth, and the habits thus formed follow him with the tenacity of a second nature all the way through life, until he finds himself broken in health and a confirmed invalid, fit only to be laid aside as an over-worn garment.

It is true that this is a lamentable view to take of life—a life, too, given us that we may enjoy the blessings by which we are surrounded and the luxurious pleasures which await our participation—but the natural pleasures given for our enjoyment are of one kind, and what we make of them another and very different thing. The youth thinks it a trifling thing to "just for once" disobey the parental injunction, but once the trespass is committed he thinks less of its repetition; until he has attained unto man's estate he has formed habits, companionships, and tastes which he has little desire to forsake, but which eventually sap his vital functions, deteriorate his bodily vigor, impair his mental powers, and make him an old man ere the days come in which it is natural that such should be expected.

The forbearance with which these youthful aberrations are tolerated in youth is nearly on a par with the non-chalance with which they are indulged. It, therefore, seems to us that both parents and children might be reminded of the consequences by the almost daily wrecking of reputations and of homes, as published in the daily papers.

It may seem cruel to hold young men and women in check, to keep them down to the line of purity of thought and of habit, to tie them, so to speak, to their mother's apron-strings, or bind them to their father's rigid rules, but as prevention is better than cure, and a good name better than riches, so is the drill necessary to the unbridled youth and unstinted watchfulness the safeguard of liberty.

But reference was intended more to the physical man in this instance than to the moral. A man of quick perceptions, and of observing mind, will not travel far before meeting with physical wrecks scattered along life's pathway, the result of early indiscretions of every possible variety, and he is disposed to cry aloud, and cry until he is heeded, that men might be checked in their mad career, and made to consider the end to which folly is leading them. One might ask, and ask it forcibly, if not fiercely, to what end is this indulgence sought? This momentary pandering to appetite and passion? Simply this: That it may end in paralysis, rheumatism, dyspepsia with all of its concomitant miseries, nervous prostration, heart disease, softening of the brain, and with many other momentous ailments too numerous to mention, a general breaking-down of the man who was once his mother's pride and father's joy.

If they could only see what the physician is daily brought into contact with, could only realise the misery and the suffering he is familiar with, could enter the wrecked homes with broken-hearted wives and mothers, and hear their woes and wails, surely it would teach them a lesson, and so force it home as to compel many to call a halt ere yet the halcyon days of youth are passed, ere yet the will-power is controlled by habits of imprudence, if not of vice and subordinated thereto. Our most precious treasures are those we have lost, and once lost, health is unpurchasable, even though millions are lavished in the effort, and the science of the ages brought into requisition. Youth is the seed-time of life. As ye sow, so also shall ye reap. What shall the harvest of old age be to you, reader?

THE RESURRECTION PLANT.

What is known as the rose of Jericho is, perhaps, one of the most familiar of the curiosities of plant life known as resurrection plants, though other varieties have recently been added to the list of these oddities. The rose of Jericho is said to be imported from the valley of the River Jordan, and is the resurrection plant mentioned in the Bible. The plant, when received from its native home, is simply a bunch of leafless and seemingly lifeless sticks or branches, clustered together tightly. When placed in a glass of water, however, the branches expand, seed-buds unfold, and soon the green foliage starts out, and the plant really grows. The Mexican resurrection plant is the fluffy fern-like variety often noticed in saucers of water in the florist's window. This delights the children, as the plant is so quickly resurrected from a dry, hard ball to a green living plant. When it is dormant, it is a shrunken, rounded ball of tightly-folded leaflets, dry and dead.

It is dropped in a bowl of tepid water, and soon one frond-like tip curls slowly outward, then another and another, and in a short time there is floating in the dish a beautiful metallic green plant, a great, loose, expanded rosette of fine fern-like leaves, peculiar and beautiful. This experiment can be repeated many times, the plant curling together tightly when dry, and expanding into new life when soaked in water. The asteriscus pygmaeus is the only resurrection plant that develops blossoms. In reality it is the blossom that is resurrected from a dry, hard, shell-like substance to a full-blown flower.

An Improvement.

"So they have reduced the number of trains that stop at your station?"

"Yes," answered Mr. Sackem. "There are only two a day at present; one to take us to town in the morning and one to bring us back at night."

"It must be a great disappointment?"

"Not at all. When we got a servant now, she's obliged to stay at least one day."

Things that are not worth waiting for are scarcely worth having. And the waiting that is prolonged until it reaches the point where discouragement would set in, if we would let it, is after all the only waiting worthy of the name, as a test of courage and faith.

Brood sows should have plenty of exercise. Without exercise the sow will be lacking in vigor. If a pregnant sow is confined all the time during her pregnancy, there will be trouble at farrowing time. The person who thus confines the sow may consider himself fortunate if he escapes losing both sow and pigs.

The whole secret of the improvement of worn-out land is the restoration of the humus that made the soil fertile when new, and the whole idea in soil improvement is to get our land back near the original new-land conditions.

Guest: By the way, your front gate needs repairing. It was all I could do to get it open. You ought to have it greased or something.

Host (an inventor): Oh, no.

Guest: Why not?

Host: Because everyone who comes through that gate pumps a small quantity of water into the cistern on the roof.

HOW TO KEEP YOUNG.

"When my next birthday comes," Oliver Wendell Holmes once said to me, "I shall be eighty years young." And he looked it—young, cheerful, with a kind, merry twinkle in his eyes.

"And," I said to him, "to what in particular do you attribute your youth? To good health and careful living, I suppose?"

"Well, yes," he replied, "to a certain extent, but chiefly to a cheerful disposition and invariable contentment, in every period of my life, with what I was. I have never felt the pangs of ambition."

"You needn't," I remarked. "The most ambitious man would have been content with being what you have been—what you are."

"Happiness, which has contentment for its invariable cause, is within the reach of practically everyone," the amiable doctor asserted; "it is restlessness, ambition, discontent, and disquietude that make us grow old prematurely by carving wrinkles on our faces. Wrinkles do not appear on faces that have constantly smiled. Smiling is the best possible massage. Contentment is the fountain of youth."

That same evening he was the guest at a banquet given by a Boston club, to which I had been kindly invited. When he rose to make a speech, they cheered and applauded to the echo. His face was radiant, beautiful. After he sat down, I said to him:

"Are you not tired of cheers and applause after all these years of triumphs?"

"No," he replied; "they never cheer loud enough; they never applaud long enough to please me."

Oliver Wendell Holmes was right; he had found the key to happiness.

The philosophers of all ages have deservedly condemned that universal discontent and disquietude which runs through every rank of society and degree of life as one of the bitterest reproaches of human nature, as well as the highest affront to the divine author of it.

If we look through the whole creation, and mark the progressive scale of beings as they rise into perfection, we shall perceive to our own shame that every creature seems satisfied with that share of life that has been allotted to it—man alone excepted.

He is pleased with nothing, perpetually repining at the decrees of Providence, and refusing to enjoy what he has, from a ridiculous and never-ceasing desire for what he has not.

He is ambitious, restless, and unhappy, and instead of dying young at eighty, dies old at forty. He misses happiness which is close at hand all his life. The object which is at a distance from him is always the most inviting, and the most valuable that possession which he cannot acquire. With the ideas of affluence and grandeur he is apt to associate those of joy, pleasure and happiness. Because riches and power may conduce to happiness, he hastily concludes that they must do so. Alas! pomp, splendor and magnificence which attend the great are visible to every eye, while the sorrows which they feel escape our observation. Hence it arises that almost every condition and circumstance of life is considered preferable to our own, that we so often court ruin, and do our very best to be unhappy.

We complain when we ought to be thankful; we weep when we ought to rejoice. We fidget and fret.

Instead of smiling, which keeps the cheeks stretched and smooth, we frown, which keeps them contracted and engraves wrinkles on them.

Instead of looking at the rosy side of things, which makes the eyes clear and bright, we run after the impossible, or the unlikely to happen, which makes us look gloomy. In short, I may say that old age is of our own making, for youth is placed at our disposal for ever and ever.

RESERVE FORCE.

In the street, when a firm has failed or when a business man has been pushed to the wall, how often we hear the expression, "He had no reserve," It would make a fitting epitaph for the grave of many a failure. A man without reserve is like a condemned, leaky vessel. On a calm day it can be towed from port to port, but it would be utterly helpless in a storm.

Many fail from lack of reserve, of education, of early training, of solid, ingrained habit. Others fail from lack of reserve of savings, of capital. Many have gone down for lack of character reserve, of health reserve, of friendship reserve. It pays to store up reserve of every kind, to be prepared for every emergency. Too exhausting effort, too extravagant expenditure, too reckless daring, or too much reliance on unknown factors leaves no margin of reserve, so that a slip would mean a certain fall.

HOUSEWORK FOR GIRLS.

No girl should be ashamed to do housework, it is a most womanly accomplishment. Learn all you can, in your own home as a daughter or in somebody else's home as a servant, but learn somehow the proper management of a house.

Don't imagine you will ever be a really good housekeeper unless you have a practical knowledge of even the humblest work in the house. It is a fallacy, for no one can command well who has not served. Learn to do, and presently you will know how to direct.

"Suppose two factories engaged in the same class of work, each employing 100 hands and producing about the same result. An inventor supplies one factory with new machinery, which enables the 100 men to produce twice as much as they formerly did. How much of that increased production," asks the "Australasian," "can be claimed as the fruit of their labor?" The reply of that journal is, "None of it. They work no harder and no more intelligently than they did before; but all is reckoned in the 'full fruits' which the Socialists claim."

It was the washing-day in the suburban establishment, and Mary Ann, the slavey, was regaling her "best" policeman with bread and cheese in the back kitchen, when her mistress called to her from upstairs:

"Mary Ann, isn't it about time you started to do your washing?"

Mary Ann replied: "Yes, ma'am; I'm just filling the copper!"

While it is not necessary to have all the cows in the dairy herd pure bred in order to have a good looking brood or a profitable herd, yet the old saying that "blood will tell" is a true one, and we all know it whether we heed it or not in our practice. There are certain limitations and certain laws to which we must conform if we are to succeed. To use a Jersey bull one year and the next an Ayrshire, and probably some other kind that is no breed at all at another time, will never give us uniform dairy herd, either in appearance or production.

A wholesome recommendation from the "Adelaide Observer":—"It is all very well for each State to have an Agent-General in London and a Commercial Agent flitting about England and the continent; but if the producers are not getting the returns they are entitled to for their products they should seriously consider the question of combining with their fellow-producers throughout Australia in starting co-operative stores, at which Australian products could be purchased at first hand."

THE CULBIN SANDS.

By Rider Haggard.

There are strange spots in the British Isles that few seem to know of, and none to visit, and of these surely one of the strangest is the great Culbin Sand that borders the Moray Firth in Elginshire. In the year 1695 here were thousands of acres of fertile land, and on them a mansion house, churches, and villages.

Then the wind blew as it had never blown before, and the sands rolled in upon the land as waters roll, and covered it.

When that storm was done the churches, the mansion, the villages, had vanished as Herculaneum and Pompeii vanished after the great eruption of Vesuvius.

Now none know their exact sites, and unless they are excavated as Pompeii has been, which is scarcely likely to occur, the eye of man will never see them more.

Now where lairds rode, and husbandmen labored, and the kindly earth gave her increase, are huge fantastic sandhills such as may be seen in certain parts of the Sahara. The scene is extraordinary in its desolation.

A vast desert and in its centre, set in a great sand cup, a shallow swamp, over which the curlews pipe and the wild wind whistles. Save the seabirds, there is no living thing visible, and the track of a man's footsteps running up the white slope of a towering sandhill looks almost as much out of place as that which Crusoe found upon his island.

Here where we stand is marram grass, where rabbits by the million make their burrows, and where, a few years ago, a mile and a half of trees, what stunted Scotch fir planted to keep back the sand, edged with thickets of wild birch and dwarf willows. Then the sand begins, and on it nothing but the glittering whiteness of the sunlight and the travelling shadows of the clouds. What a night must that have been when first this sand fell upon the place! The howling gale, the dense darkness, the air choked with driven dust that flowed in by every cranny at the doors and through the windows, burying, obliterating, levelling, by the million and the ten million tons, till at length its work was done, and man and beast were choked, or had fled away.

And if this happened once, why should it not happen again under similar conditions of wind and weather? Why should not the Culbin Sands move on inland? That is a question which no one seems quite able to answer, but perhaps the best way to prevent its becoming urgent is to continue to plant trees in thousands on the land that surrounds the waste.

THE SWORD OF DAMOCLES.

About the beginning of the eighteenth century a man was apprehended near Carlisle, charged with a capital offence—sheep-stealing. After being examined before a justice of the peace, he was committed to the county gaol for trial at the ensuing assizes. The evidence against the man was too strong to admit of any doubt of his guilt. He was consequently convicted, and sentence of death rigidly enforced for this crime at the period alluded to was pronounced. The man was returned to prison, but no warrant for his execution was received, and months passed away, and the months lengthened into years, but still no warrant arrived. In the meantime, a marked improvement in the man's conduct and bearing became apparent. His natural abilities were good, his temper mild, and his general desire to please attracted the attention and engaged the confidence of the governor of the prison, who at length employed him as a domestic servant; and such was his reliance on his integrity that he even employed him in executing commissions, not only in the city, but to places at a great distance from it. After a considerable lapse of time, however, the awful instrument, which had been inadvertently concealed among other papers, was discovered, and at once forwarded to the high sheriff and the proper authority, by the unfortunate delinquent himself. Suffice us to add, the unhappy man is stated under these affecting circumstances to have suffered the last penalty of the law.

HOW TO TREAT THE AGED.

We do not know anything that requires more tact and more tenderness than the treatment of old people by those who are younger than themselves. Treat them as those whose day is past, and those from whom nothing may be expected in the way of labor, and you touch them where they are peculiarly tender and sensitive. Treat them as though you expected full work of them, and make no allowance for the infirmities of age, and you wind them up again.

It is worth the trial to minister to those who have borne the burden and heat of the day, and who have sown for others to reap. Show a kind and thoughtful regard for their feelings; give them something to do that they can do; be respectful, deferential, reverential even, and you will reap a rich harvest of hope in hearts in which, perhaps, it was almost dead, of gratitude and affection for yourself; the more so as the old are beginning to distrust their own powers and sometimes to ask themselves the question if their day of usefulness is not past.

At an examination in a public school the examiner was asking a class of small boys some questions. He wandered through different subjects, and at last came to speak about measles, when a very little boy jumped up and exclaimed:

"Please, sir, may I ask a question?"

"Yes," said the inspector.

Then the question came:

"Why did Eve never catch the measles?"

This the inspector could not solve, so he gave it up.

"Because she'd Adam," said the small boy.

Life is not made up of great sacrifices or duties, but of little things, of which smiles and kindness and small obligations, given habitually, are what win and preserve the heart.

On a very cold day last winter a Chinaman, clothed in the usual fashion of his race, entered a tram car, where he seated himself by the side of a big Irishwoman. Wishing to get into conversation with his neighbor, to while away the time, he remarked:

"Belly (very) cold to-day."

The Irishwoman, not relishing this intrusion, replied:

"Yo dirty haythen; why don't yo tuck yer shirt inside yer trousis, thin, and kape it warm."

At this rebuke the Chinaman gave up his efforts at politeness.

Few men know how to live. We grow up at random, carrying into mature life the merely animal methods and motives which we had as little children. And it does not occur to us that all this must be changed; that much of it must be reversed; that life is the finest of the Fine Arts; that it has to be learned with life-long patience, and that the years of our pilgrimage are all too short to master it triumphantly.

Live comfortably. At the same time remember that extravagance is not comfort.

The cow may be a machine, but she is a mighty sensitive one, and deserves the most careful handling.

THE JUDICIOUS USE OF MONEY.

"Although my father was a fairly well-to-do man, and indulged his children in many expensive tastes, yet I never had a shilling that I really felt was my own until I came into a very comfortable fortune at his death, which occurred in the summer after I was twenty-one. That I ran through with my property within a very few years it would be superfluous to say. That my business career has been marked by a series of partial successes and disastrous failures would, I think, surprise no one who is able to judge of the results of such training as I had."

Such were the remarks of a middle-aged business man when asked how he could account for financial disasters which had overtaken him; and no wonder. The world is full of men and women who are always ready and willing to gratify their children in every reasonable desire—indeed, are even prodigal in their outlay for luxuries, but will never trust them with money, and never interest them in the way to use it. What wonder, then, that when they do by any chance get hold of it they waste it in all sorts of follies!

There are many men who make a great deal of money, and almost immediately proceed to squander it in the most foolish way imaginable. Oftentimes they would make better use of their earnings if they but knew how. But in their youth they had no instruction in the art of using money to the best advantage, and, being brought up from childhood to look upon it as something to get rid of as soon as possible, as no more would come to hand, what else can be expected of them?

It should be as much the duty of a parent to teach a child the use of money as to properly instruct him in any other branch of education. Indeed, this is by far more important than many of the ordinary pursuits of life, because the knowledge of it often makes success, while a lack of it is an almost certain condition of failure.

Every child should have a regular allowance, even though it be but a penny per week. It should be taught how to use even this small sum to the best advantage. Tell it what sixpence will buy; also what a shilling represents. If it has a fancy for some article costing a shilling, help it to wait. Encourage the self-denial and discipline that is learned by waiting. Let it use its first penny at once, and for whatever it pleases—sweets or cakes, it may be, for that is quite likely to be its first choice—and let it enjoy unchecked the pleasure of buying something, and that with its own money which it can do as it pleases with. Devise some means by which it can earn money, not by being good, or by doing its regular duties, or keeping itself or its room in order. These are duties that belong to it, and should never be the occasion of bribes. Let money be earned by something outside of the work ordinarily expected of it. If it is an extra disagreeable task, let it be understood that a trifle more compensation will be given. Then do not fail to give it promptly on pay day. But, no work, no pay. That is the world's rule, and the sooner the young learn it the better it is for them.

When a child is ten years of age, it should be able to do little errands, to select certain articles in general use, and to pay for them, and know that correct change is given. Many parents seem to imagine that this, one of the most important of all lessons, will come to the grown-up boy by instinct or in some other unthought-of-way, and take it as a matter of course that he will come out all right somehow.

DO YOU STAND CORRECTLY?

The art of standing correctly makes all the difference between a stately and an awkward carriage, and it is such a simple art that everyone should learn it.

A certain much-admired lady, on the shady side of forty, was once asked what she did to keep her figure so erect and youthful-looking?

"I remember to practise the advice given me by my grandmother when I was young," she replied.

"What was that?"

"Always to keep the knees stiff when standing. The old lady kept this rule herself, and her stately air was the admiration of her friends. I shall never equal her, but her advice has proved very useful to me. Try it for yourself, and you will soon find how your appearance improves."

An erect carriage gives a woman the smart appearance which is so much admired, and it would be worth striving after even at some inconvenience. The old grandmother's method, however, demands nothing but the exercise of memory, until correct standing becomes, by force of habit, second nature.

Could Not Cheat Him.

"It's funny how afraid rich men are of being cheated," reflected Mr. Bates, "especially when they get out in the country. Now, last autumn one of the fur-lined overcoat kind came up here. He snipped off his words as if they'd been coupons, and though he'd come up here for rest, he seemed to think somebody'd charge him extry for it if he mentioned the fact.

"Well, the Bassett place up on Rich Hill was for sale, and he took a fancy to it—looked just like the house where he was born, he said.

"'But don't you let it out,' he says to me. 'They'll be asking some fancy price for it if they know I want it.'

"Well, I drove him up there after he'd made up his mind, and we found Isaac Bassett out in the yard.

"'I hear this place is for sale. How much?' says Mr. Millionaire.

"Isaac opened his mouth, but that was as far as he got.

"'I'll give you two thousand five hundred for it; not a cent more,' said Mr. Millionaire, slam-bang.

"'I'll take it,' says Isaac.

"'I ain't mean,' he says, after he had made out a cheque and we'd started off, 'nor close, but I won't be done,' says he, 'just because I've made my pile.'

"I didn't tell him," chuckled Mr. Bates, "that he'd done himself."

"Had he?" questioned Mr. Bates' companion.

"Sure!" said Mr. Bates. "The farm was put up for sale for the taxes, and all they asked was fifteen hundred. And I've heard that Isaac had privately offered it for a thousand."

Sympathy is one of the great secrets of life. It overcomes evil and strengthens good. It disarms resistance, melts the hardened heart, and develops the better part of human nature.

Every individual owes obedience to something, and there can be no obedience without authority. Indeed, freedom, rightly understood, imposes the most solemn obligations of all. When no human control binds a man, he is bound with the greater stress to obey the right, to bow to the authority of conscience, to live up to his highest ideal.

A horse is a great deal like a man. Let him get overworked, over-starved, or abused, and particularly for the want of sufficient drink, and the consequences will always be injurious. Sensible horse-owners in large cities are awakening to the advantages of frequent watering. It is plenty of water that supplies evaporation or perspiration, and keeps down the temperature.

THE PRETENDER'S STAR.

Just before Charles Edward, the young Pretender, came to England to attempt the recovery of the throne of his ancestors, he gave a ball in Pa

THE HEIRESS of HILLDROP

By Bertha M. Clay.

CHAPTER XII

Lady Dresden was wise in her generation. She understood the shrinking delicacy and sensitiveness of a girl like Constance with regard to her new admirer. She made no jesting allusions to the handsome young officer, but did that which was kinder and wiser—she invited him to dine at Dresden House two days after the ball.

Constance hardly liked admitting even to herself that since that night her thoughts had never left him, and she could not help wondering if he had been thinking as much of her.

The evening came when he was to dine with Lord and Lady Dresden. Her ladyship had noticed that at Miniver House Captain Dysart could hardly tear himself from Constance's side, and she knew that he had fallen deeply and desperately in love with her protege. She said nothing, but marked with delight the exquisite toilette that made Constance that evening more beautiful than ever—a white silk ornamented with roses. Her face was brightly flushed with hope and expectation. This was a small gathering, and her ladyship knew that after dinner Constance would see more of the captain than had been possible at the ball. Lady Dresden's heart beat with pleasure when she pictured the scene.

When Captain Dysart, looking very handsome and happy, stood before Constance, her eyes were attracted at once by a gleam of something yellow in his button-hole; and, when she looked more closely at it, lo! it was a piece of broom! She blushed crimson when she saw it.

"Yes, it is real broom," he said, laughingly. "Since your description of your home, I have thought of nothing but the broom and you," he added tenderly.

"It looks better than stephanotis," she murmured, as her slender fingers caressed it lovingly.

"I think I shall wear broom in future," he went on. "I shall adopt it as my badge, after the fashion of the Plantagenets."

"You will be called 'The Knight of the Broom,'" she remarked, with a smile.

"I shall glory in the title. I like to read of those old days when knights wore ladies' favors in their helmets. I would wear a sprig of broom in my helmet if I had one. As it is, I wear it next to my heart."

"But," she said, with a deep blush, "everyone will understand who sees it."

He was delighted with the simple, naive words, which in themselves were a confession.

"Understand what?" he asked.

"Why everyone knows that my father lives at Broome!"—and then she seemed suddenly to understand all that her words implied, and drew back horrified.

At that moment the butler announced dinner. There was no time to say more.

How she longed for that dinner to end no one knew but herself. It seemed to her that the wearisome procession of dishes would never finish. Whenever she raised her eyes, they fell on the sprig of broom; it seemed to attract general attention.

Lady Dresden noticed it, and understood its meaning.

"That is as good as an offer of marriage," she said to herself. "What an open avowal."

The dinner came to an end at last, and the gentlemen did not sit long over their wine. The drawing-room was a blaze of light, and the air was sweet with the perfume of flowers. The doors leading into the bright little conservatory were wide open, and the trickling of the tiny fountain could be plainly heard.

Lady Dresden knew that Captain Dysart had an excellent tenor voice, and asked him for a song. He consented, and then in a low voice said to Constance:

"I will sing, Miss Laurayne, but my song shall be for you. Will you listen?"

"Yes, with pleasure," she replied.

"Will you promise not to be angry?" he asked, with some hesitation.

"Why should I? Yes, I can easily promise that," she answered brightly.

Captain Dysart went to the piano. He played the prelude, then began his song—

"There's music in the gallery,
There's dancing in the hall,
And the girl I love is moving
Like a goddess through the ball
Amongst a score of rivals
You're the fairest in the room;
But I like you better, Marian,
Riding through the broom.

"It was but yester morning—
The vision haunts me still—
That we looked across the valley
As our horses climbed the hill;
And I bade you read my riddle,
And I waited for my doom,
While the spell was on us, Marian,
Riding through the broom.

"The wild bird carolled freely,
The may was dropping dew;
The day was like a day from heaven—
From heaven because of you;
And on my heart there broke a light,
Dispelling weeks of gloom,
While I whispered to you, Marian,
Riding through the broom—

"'What is freer than the wild bird?
What is sweeter than the may?
What is fresher than the morning,
And brighter than the day?
In your eye came deeper lustre,
On your cheek a softer bloom,
And I think you guessed it, Marian,
Riding through the broom.

"And now they flutter round you,
These insects of an hour,
And I must stand aloof and wait
And watch my cherished flow'r.
I glory in her triumphs,
And I grudge not her perfume;
But I love you best, my Marian,
Riding through the broom."

As Captain Dysart passed Lady Dresden's chair, she touched the yellow broom lightly with her fan.

"I read the riddle," she said. "We are the 'insects of the hour,' I suppose?"

"You are not one of them," he returned, with a low bow and smile.

"A beautiful song," murmured Constance, when he reached her. "The refrain will ring in my ears for many a day. At home we can ride for miles through the broom."

"There is only one fault in the song," he said, "if fault it be."

"What is that?" she asked.

"The name should be 'Constance,' not 'Marian,'" he answered. "Are you angry?"

"No."

"I wonder," said Captain Dysart, as he looked at her earnestly, "if I shall ever ride with you through the broom?"

In her heart she hoped he would, but she made no answer. He saw that she was not angry, though.

Just such an evening as she had anticipated fell to her lot. Under cover of the music and singing they talked together, and he found how correct Captain Clinton's description had been of her. When Captain Dysart left Dresden House that night, he vowed to himself that if it were possible he would make Constance Laurayne his wife; and she, blushing and smiling, almost frightened by her happy thoughts, acknowledged to herself that this was such a man as she could love.

* * * * *

The fashionable world was not in the least surprised when an engagement between Constance Laurayne tain Dysart was announced. Everyone had expected it.

"I thought," said Constance one morning to Lady Dresden, "that the course of true love never did run smooth. I have read so, and heard it said many times."

"It does not often," answered Lady Dresden.

"But ours does," rejoined Constance; and there was a tender light in her blue eyes.

"There are exceptions to every rule," said Lady Dresden. "It is possible that yours may run smoothly to the end."

"Love never dies, does it?" asked the girl, thoughtfully.

"Not true love. The difficulty is to distinguish true love from false."

"Mine will never die," Constance said earnestly, "for I know it is true. Do you remember that line of Swinburne's—'The meaning of May is clear'? I might adapt it, and say, 'The meaning of life is clear.' Many things puzzled me before I knew Lancelot; now I seem to understand." She went over to Lady Dresden, and, kneeling by her side, looked thoughtfully up into her face. "I have brought you," she said, "two letters to read—one from my dear father, Sir Cyril, the other from Lancelot's father, Sir Thomas. But, before you read them, tell me, dear Lady Dresden, do you think that any girl living has ever been so blessed or so happy as I am?"

"I do not think anyone could be more fortunate than you are, Constance."

"I often wonder what I can do to show how grateful I am to Heaven. My heart is full of gratitude. There could be but one Lancelot Dysart in the world, and what have I done that Heaven should give him to me?"

"That is a novel way to look at it," Lady Dresden said, smiling, "but perhaps it is as good as any other. I have no doubt he thinks the same of you."

A beautiful flush tinged Constance's cheeks.

"I am very happy," she murmured. "I wonder if all girls who love and are loved are as happy as I am?"

"I do not think girls in general feel so deeply as you do," answered Lady Dresden, "and I am not quite sure whether it is not as well that it is so. Great sensitiveness and great suffering go together as a rule. Now for your letters, my dear."

The first that her ladyship read was from Sir Cyril, telling Constance how more than delighted he was at the news of her engagement. He said that he had received from Captain Dysart one of the kindest and most satisfactory of letters, and added that he had invited the young officer to Broome when Constance returned home. He also said that Lady Laurayne was greatly pleased with the news."

"It is very kind and affectionate—just like Sir Cyril," said Lady Dresden, as she folded up the letter.

Then her ladyship read Sir Thomas' far more grandiloquent epistle, in which he bade Constance welcome to his family, and hoped the marriage settlements would be satisfactory; and finally he congratulated his son on having chosen so wisely and well, and expressed the hope that he would soon have the pleasure of meeting the heiress of Hilldrop.

When that letter was finished, Lady Dresden made no comment.

"You say nothing about this," said Constance. "It certainly has not the hearty ring that my father's letter has; but still it is kind."

"I do not like Sir Thomas," said Lady Dresden. "I am not singular in that respect, for indeed no one likes him. The keynote of his character is to be found in those few words—he hopes 'soon to have the pleasure of meeting the heiress of Hilldrop.' If you were not the heiress of Hilldrop, no matter how much his son loved you, he would not care to see you."

"That is not Lancelot's fault," said Constance quickly.

"No. No father and son ever differed more in disposition than they do. If any trouble comes to mar your happiness, Constance, it will be from Sir Thomas. You are quite sure," her ladyship added, with sudden anxiety, "that nothing can interfere with your prospects with regard to Hilldrop?"

"No; Hilldrop is mine," the girl answered, with quiet conviction.

"Captain Dysart loves you well enough to marry you without fortune; he would marry you for your dear and beautiful self alone. But if by any mischance you lost Hilldrop, Sir Thomas would forbid the marriage."

"I cannot lose Hilldrop," said Constance, with one of her quiet smiles. "My mother gave it to me, and no one can take it from me. But if I did lose it what would happen?"

"Sir Thomas would forbid his son to marry you, and if he persisted in doing so, he would disinherit him," replied Lady Dresden; "and that," she added solemnly, "would be his ruin."

"Why his ruin?" asked Constance.

"I mean the ruin of all his prospects in life. Captain Dysart holds a commission in what I should imagine to be one of the most expensive regiments, the White Lancers. If his father discontinued his allowance, he would be compelled to leave the service; he could not possibly remain in it; and that would mean social ruin to him."

"Let us be thankful that that can never happen," said Constance, with a slight shudder. "I am thankful that Hilldrop is mine."

For some few minutes after that conversation she felt a faint sensation as of evil at hand; but it vanished as quickly as it came, and she smiled at her groundless fears. Beloved, carefully tended, with the fairest of futures before her, why need she fear?

There came an evening that she never forgot, when, feeling tired, she declined an engagement which Lady Dresden for some reason was desirous of fulfilling.

"I have hardly had an evening at home since I came to London," said Constance, laughingly. "Let me have this one, Lady Dresden."

"I know well what that means," she answered; "an evening for rest; and, after I have gone, there will be a knocking at the door, followed by the announcement, 'Captain Dysart,' who will enter, and look much astonished at finding no one here but you. Ah, Constance, I know the ways of lovers!"

"It is all true," the girl replied, with a blush, "except one part—Lancelot will not feel surprised at finding me alone, for I—I told him. You see, Lady Dresden, we always meet in crowds, and, though we see each other often, we seldom have an opportunity of speaking together. We want to settle the time for his visit to Broome, and we have a great deal to say."

Lady Dresden laughed aloud.

"My dear, simple child," she said, "of course it shall be just as you wish."

It was the first opportunity Constance had had of uninterrupted tete-a-tete with her lover, and it seemed a foretaste to her of all the delicious hours to come. She had taken her favorite seat, a chair that stood near the bay window, and a fairer picture than the beautiful fair-haired girl sitting there could scarcely be imagined.

So her lover thought as he entered the room and went up to her. He first kissed her white hands; then he grew bolder, and kissed her fair face.

"Oh, Constance," he cried, "even now I cannot believe that I have won you! It seems too good to be true that I should carry you off from all your admirers, and have you for my own for evermore. What were you thinking of when I came in, dear?"

"Of the sun setting over Broome," she replied. "You cannot imagine how beautiful it is. There is no place like Broome."

"I am half-jealous of it," sighed Captain Dysart.

"You need not be," she answered, with the simple earnestness so characteristic of her. "There is no one and no thing on earth that I love like you. I shall even love Broome more when you have been there."

"'The wild bird carolled freely,
The may was dropping dew;
The day was like a day from heaven—
From heaven because of you;
And on my heart there broke a light,
Dispelling weeks of gloom,
While I whispered to you, Marian,
Riding through the broom,'"

sang Captain Dysart. "Both the song and my dream will soon be realised now, Constance. It will not be many days before I am riding through the broom with you. You will allow me to accompany you home, darling?"

"I shall be pleased," she replied, with a faint blush.

He went on singing:

"'What is freer than the wild bird?
What is sweeter than the may?
What is fresher than the morning,
And brighter than the day?

I love you best, my Marian,
Riding through the broom.'

That can never be; I can never love you better than now."

"How fond you are of that song!" she said. "It might have been written for our house, or for someone in it, so appropriate are the words."

"For you," he answered. "You and the beautiful broom are always associated in my mind. If we lived in the olden days, and I wished to see you, I should always send a sprig of broom."

"And I should always know who had sent it, and respond to the signal," she replied, with a smile. "But, fortunately, we live in modern times, and have no need for signals."

"If ever I need one, I shall use it," he said laughingly. "If ever you receive a sprig of broom, you will know that I have sent it."

She laughed at the time; but, when the hour came in which she remembered the words, her heart thrilled, and her soul was stirred to its very depths.

Captain Dysart drew her head on to his breast, and they talked of the future that was to be brighter and happier to them than it had been to any lovers yet—a perfect life, rich in love for each other, rich, as they meant to make it, in good deeds for others. They talked of Hilldrop; and Constance told him, with tears in her eyes, the tragical story of Philippa Trafford.

"What a sad life!" he said. "Thank Heaven, no such fate can overtake you, my Constance!"

She looked into his ardent, love-lit eyes.

"You will always love me as well as you do now?" she said questioningly.

"Always; and, if—which Heaven forbid—we were parted, I would never clasp another woman's hand in mine."

He kissed her lips as he spoke, and she was satisfied that his troth was plighted to her forever more. When that happy meeting came to a close, she realised fully that life without him would be a blank and a burden she could not bear.

When he held her in his arms and wished her "Good-night," he whispered to her that when they reached beautiful Broome he should ask her to fix the wedding day.

"The day was like a day from heaven—
From heaven because of you,"

were the last words that rang in the ears of Constance Laurayne that happy night.

CHAPTER XIII.

Early the next morning a loud knock echoed through the hall of Dresden House. A telegram had come for Miss Laurayne; and her maid hurried off with it to her.

"A telegram for me?" inquired Constance, in surprise. "Are you sure there is no mistake?"

"None, miss," was the reply. "The address is 'Miss Laurayne, Dresden House'; it must be for you."

No presentiment of evil came to Constance when she took the telegram. There was a bird singing gaily outside; she looked at it with a smile before she opened the envelope.

"Sweet, happy little bird!" she thought.

Then she read with dazed and bewildered eyes the following words:—

"From Lady Laurayne, Broome, to Miss Laurayne, Dresden House, Mayfair.—If you wish to see your father alive, return at once. He is dangerously ill."

Even as she read the telegram a conviction came to her that she would never again see her beloved father alive.

"My father is very ill," she said to the maid, "and I must go to him at once."

Then she stood silent, oppressed by the terrible fear that had come over her, a fear that smote her heart with a deathly chill. She who was usually so self-reliant, so composed, now seemed to have lost all power of thought. She turned to her maid.

"What shall I do?" she asked piteously. "I must go, and at once."

"Shall I ask his lordship to come?" suggested the maid.

When Lord Dresden saw Constance, he was alarmed at the pallor of her face and the terror shining in her eyes. She held out the telegram for him to read.

"Tell me what to do!" she cried. "I feel as though I were dying!"

Lord Dresden took the telegram and read it.

"It may not be as bad as you think," he said soothingly; "let us hope not. Telegrams must be forcible, or they are useless. Sir Cyril is strong, and I can scarcely think a few days' illness will prove dangerous to him. Take heart, my dear; you will soon be able to judge for yourself."

Lord Dresden sent for the time-table, and after looking at it, observed: "There is a train that leaves Charing Cross at half-past nine; if you can catch that, you will soon reach Ravelston. The carriage is sure to be waiting for you there."

"Can I catch that train?" she asked.

"You shall, if it be possible," he replied. "I will order the carriage at once. Leave everything to me, my dear."

Lord Dresden hurried away to give his orders, and the maid assisted Constance to dress. She did not wait for any packing; all her things were to be sent on after her. The color did not return to her face, nor did the trembling of her hands cease; her one feeling was that the whole fabric of her life was shattered. She remembered, with a sudden pang, that her lover was coming at noon, that they had arranged to ride together; and now he would come and find her gone.

Pressed for time as she was, she yet wrote a note to him, telling him of the telegram, and assuring him that she would write that same day from Broome.

"It is terrible to me," she wrote; "and perhaps the most terrible feeling of all is the foreboding I have that the happiness of my whole life is hopelessly shattered. But that can never be while you live and love me."

In the after-years she often remembered this feeling of coming evil.

She gave the letter to Lord Dresden. "Captain Dysart will be here at noon," she said; "when he comes, will you give him this?"—and the terror and anguish in her face as she placed the note in his hands haunted him long afterwards.

Lord Dresden offered to accompany her to Broome; but Constance thought it best to decline the kind offer, remembering the confusion and dismay that must prevail there. His lordship, however, saw her to the station, and waited until the train left.

The train sped slowly on its way; Constance could never remember how that terrible journey passed. She could only pray with her whole heart and soul that her father might be saved.

When the train reached Ravelston, the carriage was waiting at the station for her. With a white, scared face Constance looked at the footman.

"How is my father, John?" she asked.

The servant looked at her with a face equally pale.

"There has been no change since morning, miss," he answered.

As she drove home, she had no eyes for the smiling landscape, for the beautiful broom, on which the sun was shining gloriously.

They drove quickly up to the great entrance-door, which was hastily opened by one of the men-servants.

"How is Sir Cyril?" Constance asked breathlessly. But, hastening past him, she gave him no time to answer.

She thought it strange that none of the family were there to meet her. The darkness and silence of the house had not struck her; but, when she saw her old nurse, Sarah King, crossing the hall, and caught a glimpse of her sorrowful face, she seemed to realise the truth. She stood still, her heart beating wildly, her brain bewildered.

"Am I too late?" she gasped.

"My poor, pretty darling!" cried the old nurse. "You are indeed too late. Sir Cyril died at sunrise this morning."

With a heart-rending cry Constance fell forward into the arms of the faithful nurse.

"My poor, poor dear!" was all the woman could utter.

When Constance opened her eyes, she found herself lying in her own room, with Sarah King anxiously watching by her side.

"Oh, my father, my father!" she sobbed. "If I could but have seen him alive! If I could have but kissed him and said 'Good-bye!'"

"So you would have done, my dear, if I had had my own way. I wanted to send for you at first, but Lady Laurayne would not listen to me. She said Sir Cyril would soon be well, and that it would be a great pity to spoil your visit."

"What did my visit—what did anything in the world matter, if I could but have seen him?" the girl cried, despairingly.

"I said as much to Lady Laurayne, but it was of no use. My poor master has been ailing for some days, and he asked especially that I might wait upon him. He talked incessantly about you, called for you, wanted you; last night, when he was taken so much worse, his constant cry was for you. Her ladyship sat by his side, fair-spoken and kind enough. It was always the same—'Connie, Connie, I want you; I want to speak to you.' Once her ladyship asked me if I thought that he had anything particular to say to you, and I answered, 'Yes,' I felt sure he had. Then Sir Cyril cried again, 'Connie, I want you! Come, my dear!' 'Connie is coming, Cyril,' said her ladyship soothingly. 'I said to her plainly enough, 'Miss Connie will not come unless she is sent for, and you have not sent yet, my lady.' She rose from her chair and beckoned me from the room. I went. She stood looking eagerly into my face, her own quite pale and anxious. 'I am afraid,' she said, 'of exciting Sir Cyril. The doctors warned me especially against allowing him to be excited.' Just at that moment we heard Sir Cyril cry again in his weak voice, 'Connie, when are you coming?' 'There,' said her ladyship eagerly—'you hear that, King?' 'Yes, my lady,' I replied; 'Nature speaks even in death. Sir Cyril wants his daughter.' But I do not wish him to be excited or disturbed,' said Lady Laurayne.

"'I told her, my darling,' continued the old nurse, 'that it would agitate him far more not to see you than to see you; but her ladyship still persisted in saying that he must not be disturbed. 'Miss Laurayne will not disturb him any more than yourself, my lady,' I said at last, almost sharply; and but for that, my dear, you would not be here now. Then she told me to send the telegram in her name. It was written out last night, and sent the first thing this morning. But my poor master was dead when it was sent. I would not change the wording lest it should terrify you. I do not want to alarm you, my darling, but I could not help feeling that Lady Laurayne did not want you to see Sir Cyril before his death. I am quite sure she did not.'"

"Has my brother Austin come?" asked Constance.

"Yes. Her ladyship sent for him yesterday. He was with Sir Cyril for some hours, but he did not seem to know the boy. He had nothing to say to him. My master only cried for 'Connie.'" The old nurse trembled with excitement as she told her story. "If I had had my way," she went on, "you would have been sent for on the first day that my master fell ill; and I shall always feel sure that her ladyship had a reason of her own for keeping you away."

At that moment Lady Laurayne's maid came to say that her mistress would like to see Miss Laurayne.

"I must see my father first," Constance cried, in great agitation. "I must see him. Oh, nurse, it is the first time that he has not welcomed me home!" Better, she thought, to kiss the dead lips of the one who had loved her than the living lips of those who loved her not.

"You shall see him, miss," answered the old nurse; "but go to her ladyship now. I want you to be very friendly with her. I have more to tell you, but not now."

Constance followed the maid, who, to her surprise, led the way to the eastern wing.

"Her ladyship has changed her rooms," explained the maid. "She went into these this morning."

"She leaves him as soon as he is dead," thought the broken-hearted girl. "He lies in the western wing;" and Constance remembered how, when her own mother died, Sir Cyril had hardly left the room until she was carried from it.

Would this beautiful woman mourn for him as her mother would have done?

A strange feeling came over her—a feeling that in some vague way her father's house was home to her no longer. Everything appeared different. There was but one ray of light in all her gloom and misery, and that was the recollection of her lover. For one look at Lancelot's face, for one clasp of his hand, she would just then have given anything in the world. How long was it since she had sat in the great bay window watching the sunset, with her lover kneeling by her side? How long? And now she was in the midst of gloom and death. Still the thought of him was like a ray of light penetrating the darkness.

Then she reached Lady Laurayne's room and tapped at the door.

(To be continued.)

"Jane," said the mistress of the house, "some of the bed-linen is missing. Was any of it left on the line?"

"Mother," cried her little daughter, "I know where it is. Father's got it."

"What do you mean, child?"

"I hear the lady next door say this morning that she saw father last night with three sheets in the wind!"

Aspiration is better than attainment, because attainment without aspiration never can become a greater attainment, but perpetual aspiration is perpetual attaining.

Fresh air, sunshine and scalding water are still the best cleansers for milk and dairy utensils. They cost nothing, and all know how to apply them. Are you taking advantage of them?

THE HOUSEHOLD.

Roasted Steak.—Take some rather thin, but very tender, rumpsteak, sprinkle it with pepper and salt. Make a forcemeat of six ounces of breadcrumbs, two ounces of lean ham or bacon, four ounces of suet, a teaspoonful each of chopped parsley and sweet herbs, the grated rind of half a lemon, salt, pepper, mace, and nutmeg to taste; mix well, and moisten with two raw eggs. Spread some of the seasoning over half of each steak, roll and bind it firmly that the forcemeat may not escape, and roast the meat before a clear fire, baating it well, for about an hour and a-half, but this must depend on the thickness and size of the rolls. Take off the bindings, and serve with rich brown gravy over and round the rolls, and garnish the dish with potato chips.

Baked Apple Jelly.—Pare, quarter, and core two quarts of apples, and put them into an earthenware baking-jar in layers, with as much sugar as the apples require. This must depend on their acidity. Pour a gill of cold water over them, cover the jar with any closely-fitting cover, and bake the apples till they turn red. Let them cool, arrange on a glass dish, and serve cold with cream. The apple jelly may, if desired, be garnished with whipped cream flavored with lemon.

French Pancakes.—Beat the whites of four eggs to a snow; then beat the yolks with a dessertspoonful of sugar, two tablespoonfuls of flour, and one of cream or milk. Mix all together, and fry in butter till a light brown color. Cut and roll in thin slices. Be sure and see that your pan is warm before you put your butter in. Serve very hot, sprinkle fine white sugar. Lemon juice is also preferred.

Baked Apples.—Wash and core six sour apples. Put in baking pan, and fill cavities with half a cupful of sugar, one teaspoonfull butter, quarter teaspoonful cinnamon, and a few gratings of lemon rind, all blended together. Cover bottom of baking dish with boiling water, and bake in a hot oven until soft, basting often with syrup of dish. Serve hot or cold with cream.

Baked Rhubarb.—Cut one pound of rhubarb into three-quarter-inch pieces without peeling. Wash, drain, and put into baking dish, with one cup granulated sugar, one and a-half-inch piece Canton ginger and three shavings of lemon peel three-quarters of an inch long, cover and place in oven, cool and serve. Both ginger and lemon may be omitted, and lemon-peel removed after cooking.

Baked Lemon Pudding.—Two tablespoons arrowroot or cornflour, 3 eggs, 1 lemon, 1 pint boiling water, 1 dessertspoon butter, 1 large cup sugar. Mix arrowroot with a little water, yolks of eggs (beaten), grated rind and juice of lemon, sugar and butter, add lastly, boiling water. Boil mixture for a few minutes, and pour into a buttered pledish. Whisk white of eggs to a stiff froth, with enough sugar to make a meringue. Put on the top of the pudding and brown.

A PLEA FOR THE BOYS.

In some families there seems to be an idea that prettiness and comfort are not particularly desirable for boys, and that really any sort of furniture, as long as it is substantial, is good enough for the schoolboys' room. Now this is a mistake. We don't want to make our boys in the least effeminate, but still there is a happy medium between over-sensitiveness to their surroundings and an entire want of perception of the refinements of home comfort, and to these the average boy is as fully alive as the average girl. Let your boy's room be as nice in its way as your young daughter's, and, instead of its being the untidy "den" boys' rooms so often are, you will see he is proud of it, and that his little sanctum, with its fishing-rods, bats, etc., is a place in which he has pleasure, and which he likes to show his friends when they seek him out in his home.

In your dealings with your boys, remember, too, that, though they are often awkward and ungainly, they are sensitive to kindness and to the want of it. Never, therefore, let them feel they are in the way. If the sitting-room be crowded, and you feel there is barely room for the whole party, don't banish the boys, but, instead, take out some of the furniture, so that there is space enough for them and their amusements.

If the boys once begin to feel they are not wanted in the home circle, they are sure, before long, to seek society where they are wanted, and very likely it may be what you would think undesirable. All young folks desire sympathy and friendship, boys quite as much as girls, so take an interest in your boy's affairs, and when discussing with them talk, not as it were from a height, but as to rational beings.

Let them see that you recognise the fact that their mistakes are greater than yours, not because of any real superiority on your part, but simply because you have years ago walked over the ground which is so fresh to them, and, therefore, have gained experience from your own failures and blunders.

Don't leave your boys out of your pleasures, but take them with you whenever you can, and when their friends come to see them, be as kind and as courteous to them as you would have them be to your own visitors.

A boy who is treated in this way at home goes out to the world with tender memories, which will be as a shield against many evils that beset him, and you may be quite sure that however dear and however numerous the friendships he may form, he will keep a warm place in his loyal heart for the parents who were the first of all to love him.

SOME WELL-KNOWN PHRASES.

The words "Coming events cast their shadows before" came to the poet Campbell in a dream, and were afterwards used by him in his stirring poem, "Lochiel's Warning." "Conspicuous by his absence" is attributed to Lord John Russell. But, on his own admission, he borrowed the expression from Tacitus, the ancient historian. "Punch's" advice to those about to marry, "Don't," is a piece of wisdom uttered by Diogenes, the cynic, 400 years before the Christian era. The phrase "Castles in the air" was used for the first time by Robert Burton in his "Anatomy of Melancholy," a book published in the seventeenth century. "What will Mrs. Grundy say?" occurs in Morton's comedy, "Speed the Plough," written in 1798. One of the characters, Farmer Ashfield, growing weary of constant references to Mrs Grundy, a character in the play, by his goodwife, suddenly turns upon her with, "Be quiet, will ye. Always dingdonging Dame Grundy into my ears. What will Mrs. Grundy say?' 'What will Mrs. Grundy think?'" The phrase tickled the public ear at the time, and is still in fashion. "All the world's a stage" was said by the ancient Roman satirist Juvenal; and "Let justice be done even though the heavens fall," attributed to the celebrated English judge, Lord Mansfield, is a literal translation of the words, "Fiat justitia ruat coelum," uttered by a judge of ancient Rome when condemning his own son to death.

Enamoured Swain (after being accepted): Darling, you look sweet enough to eat.

Practical Maid: Well, you can take it that I do eat. I hope you didn't think that I live on atmosphere alone.

CRIMES CONFESSED DURING SLEEP.

Criminologists say that the greatest terror that afflicts that fraction of humanity suffering from an uneasy conscience is not dread of the police, by any means, nor awe of any other acknowledged enemy of law-defiers. What the criminal dreads is sleep, which is, it appears, the friend of the righteous only. To men with the knowledge of dark deeds stored within them, sleep is the most treacherous of foes. The countless poems that have been written in praise of it very naturally appear as so much cold-blooded mockery to such as are in hourly dread of betraying themselves under its influence. An untold number of crimes have been confessed by their perpetrators during sleep. Is it any wonder, inquires a writer in "Science Siftings," that those conscious of irregularities of conduct prefer to remain awake?

It was not long ago that a well-known detective happened to be travelling in a sleeping-car. The detective, who chanced to be occupying a lower berth, heard the sleeper above him burst forth into a long-winded confession regarding several daring jewel robberies wherein he had taken part. Much impressed, the official kept an eye on him. Further inquiries proved that the confession had been an exact record of what had taken place.

Many years ago a common lodging-house was the scene of a sleeping criminal's confession. The room was occupied by himself and two other—a young sailor. While the latter was lying awake he suddenly heard a curious and ghastly laugh issue from his room companion's lips. The laugh was followed by a long and rambling description of a murder he had committed, horrible in its details. The sailor crept downstairs, and informed the landlord of what had occurred. The latter at once summoned a policeman, who recognised the sleeper as the man "wanted" for the crime in question.

Perhaps the entire history of crime contains no more dramatic episode than that which occurred some years ago in a Prussian town. The husband of a certain attractive young woman had vanished in a mysterious manner from his home, and all attempts to trace his whereabouts failed completely. Meantime, a neighbor called Schmidt, who had been devoted to the young wife before her marriage, reappeared on the scene, and paid her assiduous attentions. So successfully did he press his suit that within a year of his rival's disappearance the fair lady consented to marry him, and they were united at the parish church.

On the second night following the wedding the newly-made bride lay awake, unable to slumber. Presently there came a gurgling cry from the sleeping form beside her, and a moment later the man in a loud voice proclaimed that he had killed the missing husband and had buried his body in a neighboring wood. This statement the sleeper reiterated several times, naming the exact spot where the corpse lay interred. The affrighted wife heard the whole confession, and next morning carried the remarkable story to the police bureau. The place named by the sleeper was searched, and sure enough, the body of the vanished man was discovered there.

Somewhat similar in several details was the case of an Austrian peasant who murdered his "friend" in order that he might woo the latter's sweetheart, a girl of unusual beauty. All attempts to trace the missing man had failed, and doubtless the affair would have remained a mystery to the end of time had not the criminal signed his own death-warrant by confessing the crime while dozing by the fire in a neighbor's cottage. Bit by bit he described the incidents of the terrible affair, stating that he had destroyed his victim's body by fire. The man was then arrested and his cottage searched. Some garments and a watch belonging to the deceased being found there, his guilt was considered half-proved, and when placed in the dock he made a full confession, repeating, in fact, what he had said during his unlucky slumber.

Absent-minded.

A man was charged with trying to commit suicide by hanging himself from a gas bracket in his bedroom, with his braces.

His lawyer argued well and long for him (the would-be suicide being now sober and repentant), so that the three J.P.'s on the bench all had different ideas as to the punishment to be inflicted.

They adjourned the case for a week to inquire into the man's past—but, of course, the story was reported in the papers, and it created some local excitement.

So, when, a day or two later, some big function was on, and anyone who was anything made an appearance, including the chairman of the bench, it was quite natural that some young and inquisitive woman should ask the chief magistrate about this particular case, and say:

"What do you thing was really the matter with the man?"

The magistrate said: "My dear young lady, come over into a quiet corner; I'll bring you an ice, and then tell you my candid opinion."

Five minutes later the magistrate said:

"My dear Miss ——, I expect we shall discharge this man with a caution. I honestly believe there was nothing else in his mind except that he came home dead drunk, saw a bracket or a peg, and mistook himself for his trousers."

Solving the Difficulty.

The Rev. J. H. Twichell—Mark Twain's pastor—has been relating some interesting reminiscences of the humorist which have shown him in a new light. Mark Twain, he says, has a passionate love for animals, and at home he always has a pet cat near his side; and on his journeying if he saw a cat he would stop to stroke it.

Here is an incident which shows he could not resist a joke even in the days of his early struggles. As a reporter he had to attend a meeting of the City Council in Carson City.

The President was a ponderous man given to sounding words and intellectual confusion. A motion was made to expunge from the records a certain matter which the presiding officer was extremely anxious should not become part of local history. The motion, having been seconded, was eagerly passed.

"The matter has been ordered expunged," declared the presiding councillor gravely, "and the clerk will proceed to expunge. It should be effectively wiped out, obliterated, and totally destroyed."

He paused to notice the effect of his sentence of annihilation.

"Where, gentlemen," he asked, "will you have the expunged matter deposited and placed?"

Mark Twain caught the attention of the councillor nearest him.

"Let the expunged matter be worn under the chairman's hat," he suggested. "No one would ever think of looking there for anything."

Cocky (after half an hour's struggle): The cove that sold me this 'orse wasn't far out.

Passing Swaggie: Why, wot did 'e say?

Cocky: He guaranteed him to have great staying powers, and by the look of it he's going to stay hoi for a week.

BREAKING STRENGTH OF BONES.

The Effect of Food.

The object of an experiment carried out at the Agricultural Experiment Station, Nebraska, was to ascertain the effect of different classes of food on the breaking strength of bones in growing pigs, as an indication of the food required for pigs which are to be used for breeding purposes.

A lot of sixteen pigs of one breed and of approximately uniform character and weight was selected. The experiment began on October 13, 1906, and the pigs were killed on February 12, 1907. The animals were divided into five lots:—

1. Fed entirely on maize-meal.
2. Seventy-five per cent. maize-meal and 25 per cent. shorts.
3. Twenty-five per cent. maize-meal and 75 per cent. skim-milk.
4. Ninety per cent. maize-meal and 10 per cent. tankage.
5. Ninety per cent. maize-meal and 10 per cent. bone meal.

And the average breaking strength of the bones per 100lb. of live weight was found to be:—Lot 1, 325lb.; lot 2, 396lb.; lot 3, 509lb.; lot 4, 580lb.; lot 5, 681lb.

The thickness of the bone wall increased about 50 per cent. in those fed bone-meal over those fed only corn. The percentage of mineral water and the specific gravity in the green bones increased in nearly the same proportion as the thickness of the walls.

This extreme difference in the breaking strength of the bones of the different lots indicates that the skim-milk, the tankage, and the ground bone each contained some substance in which the corn was deficient that was available for bone-building purposes. Since the increased mineral matter in the bones is largely phosphate of lime, and since the skim-milk, tankage and ground bone are each rich in phosphate of lime, it is fair to look upon the phosphates in these foods as the determining factor in the building-up of the bones in the pigs' feed.

There can be no doubt about the advantage of feeding a sufficient amount of phosphates to build up strong, healthy bones, and a deficiency of phosphates during the growing period may materially affect the development of the growing animals.

That foods rich in phosphates and mineral matter will increase the strength of bone is conclusively proven.

That an excess of mineral matter in the food may cause mineral matter to be deposited in the bones in excess of that actually needed for the healthy growth of the animal is also quite possible, though not yet proven.

AUTOGRAPHS OF FAMOUS PEOPLE.

Of course, most people know that autographs of famous men, and letters written by them, are eagerly sought by collectors the world over; but it is scarcely a matter of general knowledge that there are regularly-established dealers in autographs, men whose sole business it is to buy letters and signatures, singly or in large quantities, and sell them at a higher price to customers in search of "finds."

Asked how he obtained his stock, one American dealer said that on an average, from two to ten entire collections of autographs are brought to him every day.

"Oh, I can assure you that I don't have to go out and hunt the stuff up," he said. "Of course, I watch auction sales, at which a great many valuable letters and other documents of celebrities are sold. Then, too, many booksellers deal in autographs as a side line, and I obtain some from them.

"The most expensive autograph I ever sold was that of Thomas Lynch, junr. He was the signer of the Declaration of Independence. He signed it as proxy for his father, who was ill at the time. Soon after, he went to sea, and was never heard of again. Autographs of Declaration signers are much sought by collectors. None approach in rarity those of Thomas Lynch, junr. In fact, so far as I know, there is only one in existence.

"This is affixed to an autograph letter addressed by Lynch to George Washington, which lends it additional value. It was owned at one time by Jared Sparks, president of Harvard College. Subsequently it passed to Thomas Addis Emmet, from whom I bought it for the sum of 4000 dollars. I sold it to Augustin Daly, who was a keen autograph collector, for 4500 dollars. Later, Emmet repented of letting the autograph go from his possession, and secured it from Daly for 5250 dollars, presenting it afterwards to the Lenox Library, New York, where it now is.

"Among the most popular autographs are those of Presidents of the United States and of members of their Cabinets. Then the letters of literary men are much sought. Shelley's, which are particularly rare, run in value as high as 150 dollars apiece, according to the nature of the letter. A great deal of the value consists in the contents of the letters themselves. Goldsmith autographs bring as high as 300 dollars, Milton's 400 dollars, sometimes. Those of Dickens' are plentiful, and are worth about 15 dollars each. Thackeray's, on the other hand, are comparatively rare. He did not write much, or else much of his correspondence has not as yet got on the market. There are Thackeray autographs which command as much as 100 dollars apiece."

The Woman Who Worries

A woman who never worries declares that there is nothing more detrimental to beauty in woman than worry. The worrying woman does nobody any good. She simply invites the hand of Time, which writes plenty of wrinkles on her brow, around her eyes and mouth, paints her face yellow, and gives a lack-lustre eye that no artifice can brighten.

It is quite unnecessary to worry, and it is a total waste of energy which could be better employed.

You know a worrying woman the moment you see her. Her character is written in her face in wrinkles which you would think nothing short of a miracle would obliterate.

Downright ugliness is a heavy price to have to pay for the possession of a bad habit, but there it is. And not only does worry directly influence the complexion for evil, its more remote effects are no less potent in robbing the face of the peach bloom tints which are the admiration

WESTLEIGH COLLEGE.

ANNUAL DEMONSTRATION.

The annual concert and distribution of prizes in connection with Westleigh College took place at the Fitzroy town hall on Wednesday evening, when there was a large attendance, and an excellent and most enjoyable programme was presented by the pupils.

The principals' report, which was read by the Rev. Mr. Britten, stated they were gratified to be able to say that they were closing a very successful year, the 23rd of their existence. The numbers had been in advance of previous years, namely, 104, with an average attendance of 95. The health of the pupils had been exceptionally good. The schoolroom, Northcote, was about to be improved in accordance with the requirements of the Board of Health. Examinations had proved that the work in the school had been very thorough and the winner of the dux prize in each division has only gained that distinction by strenuous efforts. Many who do not appear in the prize list have gained 70 per cent of the aggregate number of marks. The "old girls" were keeping up the prestige of the college. Miss Amy Slade, who matriculated with them, has this year passed her first year Arts, Miss Isabel Marshall has completed her course of pharmacy and Miss Evelyn Sootney, who first appeared at one of their school concerts, had bright prospects of a brilliant career in the musical world. There had been several reunions of the "old girls," of whom the principals had every reason to feel proud. The pupils again scored a great success at the C.M.S. examination, 14 out of 15 passing. Dressmaking has been added to the curriculum during the year, and next year they hope to have a class for cooking. There would be no change in the staff for the coming year. Sport in the way of tennis and Badminton (for indoors) had received every encouragement. Duties would be resumed on February 8.

Mr. T. G. Membrey, M.L.A., prior to presenting the prizes, addressed the pupils in a short speech. He referred to the high standing to which the Misses Westgarth had brought their college and remarked upon the great opportunities which children of the present day possess because of such scholastic institutions. He urged the girls to make the most of their opportunities, as there was no knowing what high positions many of them would be called upon to fill in after life. Many of the old pupils had already distinguished themselves, and their doings in the world would reflect credit on the college. The Misses Westgarth not only had the esteem of past and present pupils but of the whole district and he desired to congratulate them on the result of another year's work. Mr. Membrey then presented the prizes, performing his task, which was no light one, the rewards being very numerous, in an admirable manner.

PRIZE LIST.

Dux of college, Gwen Trevena, and singing (Miss Bessie Jukes' prize); Coral Mason, elocution; Eileen McQuie, conduct, story (Miss Sonnenberg, M.A.); Rone Clare, essays, drawing, and painting.

Sub junior public.—Dux, Nellie Irving; Estelle Rowe 1 French, 2 Algebra, botany, specimens; Zella Clare, 2 science, boarders' Scripture; Ella Olive, music, physical culture (Miss Turnbull), drawing (Miss Finley), physiological diagrams, (Dr. Sturder), elocution.

Va.—Dux, Stella Arthur, senr Scripture; Esmé Strover, 1 physiology, essays, 2 history, 2 general knowledge; Mabel White, diagrams; Jean Cook, 1 French, singing; Eleanor Pilkington, 1 Algebra; Madge Beeley, 1 arithmetic, 1 mapping; Mota Inglis, 1 physiology, 1 geography, 2 English, 2 mathematics; Amy Ross, 1 Algebra; Gladys Pitt, 2 botany; Ruby Brown, diagrams.

Vb.—Dux, Jessie Inglis, and Scripture; Marjorie McQuie, 1 history, 1 Nature study, 2 English, 2 geography, 2 arithmetic; Katie Hendry, 1 French; Hazel Cranser, 2 French; Joy Sach, essay; Minda Swift, needlework.

IV.—Dux, Verlie Daily; Maud Foubister, 2 English, 2 French, 1 writing; Vivie Steiner, 1 French, 2 history; Dorothy Freeman, 1 arithmetic; Edith Kilborn, 2 geography; Florence McTaggart, 1 general knowledge; Sheila Whitford, music.

III.—Dux, Lily Gamble, and Scripture; Bessie Andrew, 1 English, 1 French, 2 general knowledge; Dorothy Listlejohn, 1 Nature study, 2 English; Madge Stanborough, 1 geography, 1 arithmetic, 2 history; H. McTaggart, drawing; Belle Warden, singing.

II.—Dux, A. Twentyman; Muriel Gilpin, 1 Scripture, 1 arithmetic, physical culture (junior); Gwen Salmon, 1 French, needlework; Hylton Kay, 2 arithmetic.

Kindergarten.—Dux, Dulcie Christian, and Scripture; Esther Moorman, kindergarten work; Joan Whalley, 1 English, conduct; L. Twentyman, 2 kindergarten work; Evelyn Girling, 1 grammar, 1 arithmetic; Fred Kelson, 2 English; Robert Lawrence, 2 geography, 2 Nature study; Douglas Stone, 1 Nature study, 2 arithmetic; Lionel Jackson, 1 Nature study.

North Fitzroy (junior branch).—III.—Dux, Marion Appleyard, singing (Miss Elsie Rayment); Marjorie Irving, 1 French, 2 arithmetic, conduct; Gladys Olive, 1 general knowledge; Dorothy Mail, 1 writing; Eva Callaghan, needlework; Harry Greenland, singing (Miss Elsie Rayment).

II.—Dux and Scripture, Dorothy Irving; Lily Veal, Scripture, writing; Gladys Foreman, English; Neil Shepard, 1 French, 1 geography.

Kindergarten.—Dux and Scripture, George Daily; Ivor Smith, grammar; Mervyn Britten, English, arithmetic; Dorothy Avory, writing; Ray Morgan, geography; J. Blanchard, 1 Nature study; E. Robertson, drawing; Florrie Robertson, kindergarten work; Lily Sauders, general improvement.

Honor list (70 per cent.)—Margaret Withrington, Violet Fletcher, Minda Swift, Joy Sach, Myrtle Fletcher, Clarice Salmon, Sheila Whitford.

Midwinter class prizes.—Dulcie Christian, Florence McTaggart, J. Veal, B. Cooper, Myrtle Fletcher, Marjorie McQuie, Stella Arthur, Nellie Irving, Gwen Trovena.

Sports.—Tennis, Madge Dobbin; Badminton, Zella Clare; old collegians' tennis, Miss Clare.

PRESENTATIONS.

To Mr. Membrey also fell the pleasing duty of presenting to the Misses Wesigarth on behalf of their pupils a couple of lovely ornaments and three silver specimen vases. He was sure that the wish of one and all of the donors was that the Misses Westgarth would live long to reign over their splendid educational establishment.

The mayoress of Northcote (Mrs. W. Hayes) presented the sports prizes.

THE CONCERT.

The concert, as has already been said, contained many excellent items, the most ambitious being a "New Year's Drama," which was beautifully presented by the following:—Miss Coral Mason (as Old and New Year), Misses Olive and Z. Clare (her attendants), Miss R. Clare (Spring), Miss Stella Arthur (Summer), Miss K. Hendry (Autumn), Miss Estelle Rowe (Winter), and about a dozen other girls as attendants. Very pretty and most interesting, and admirably dressed, too, as "The Japanese Tea House," with chorus, by the girls of the middle school; while the little girls and boys of the junior school had something that just suited their powers in the hoop song. In physical culture the girls of the junior class showed to advantage with clubs, whilst the senior class with Grecian Cymbals gave a most effective performance. A picturesque and patriotic number was the British Flag chorus by the North Fitzroy junior school, and there was a chorus, "Before the Sun." Some good piano work was also shown by the Misses R. and Z. Clare, Gwen Trevenen (trio), Sheila Whitford, Ella Olive and K. Hendry.

The fortnightly meeting of the Northcote branch A.W.A. was held on December 6th, the president (Mrs. Key) in the chair. Arrangements were made to have Xmas tree on December 20th, for members and friends' little ones. One proposal for membership was received. Mrs. Brooker's name was by mistake omitted from the committee.

CRICKET.

V.C.A. MATCHES.

After two Saturdays spell Northcote will start a match against St. Kilda this afternoon, and then have two days off, and will finish on January 8. The match will be played at St. Kilda. Northcote team—Billings, Brown, Bailey, Fontain, Lovett, Lugton, Rowe, Richardson, Plant, Parratt, Spicer, Yeomans.

The second elevens of the above will play at the Northcote park. The local team will be represented by Andrew, Ashby, Begg, Boyle, Bolton, Coyle, Fox, Organ, Trueman, Studley, Wilkinson, Yeomans.

Northcote C.C. are making a Christmas trip to Ballarat, and will play in the Eastern Oval against Ballarat. A fairly representative team have decided to go. Any members wishing to join are requested to notify the secretary at once. Most of the party will leave for the Golden City on Friday night.

Preston v. Richmond City, played at Richmond City reserve.—Fyfe, captain of Preston, won the toss, and sent in Rankine and Lyon to bat. The former was the first to go, being caught out on the boundary for 2. Watt followed, but after making 8 was bowled with a fine length ball by Machar. Mehegan came next, but was bowled after making 5. Westmoreland then went in for his first innings this season, and after shaping very well was caught off a mishit for 9. Dickens following soon got to work and knocked up 19 before being caught. Lyon was the next to go, being stumped by Davis for 19. W. H. Smith, batting in his very best style, made 33. He seems like good wine, to improve with age. Robinson again showed some of his batting qualities by a well-made 21. Thomson 6 and Fyfe 8 not out, with the assistance of 36 sundries, made a total of 167 runs. Machar 4 for 25, Wallace 4 for 50, Kirby 2 for 21. The match will be resumed to-day, the City going in to bat.

Preston Amateurs v. St. Kilda, played at St. Kilda. Amateurs, 8 for 124 (Sykes 60 retired, Kerr 27, Banken 12); St. Kilda Rovers, 2 for 104 (Russ 47 not out, Gill 39 not out; Hodigan 1 for 32, Kerr 1 for 33). The Amateurs play Surrey Hills at Preston Park to-day. Afternoon tea will be provided by the Amateurs.

Prince of Wales' Park A play Pembroke at Port Melbourne to-day. The following players are requested to go to Montague station:—Broadbent, Jutson, Holden, Scott (2), Uglow (2), Crosier, Sinden, Walker, Clark, Booth, Wasley.

Park B team play Carlton La Mascotte at Northcote. Team to be picked on the ground.

South Preston Methodist play Yarraville Babtist at Yarraville this afternoon. Players are requested to catch the 1.38 from Bell.

Northcote Presbyterian A v. Parkville, won by Parkville by 7 wickets. Scores—Northcote, 46 and 9 for 89 (swift 19 not out, Harrison 17, Thomson 16, Adams 14); Parkville, 54 and 3 for 86 (Harrison 2 for 12).

Northcote Presbyterian A play Yarraville to-day at Yarraville. Players catch 2.15 train from Flinders street.

Northcote Presbyterian B concluded their match against Parkville B and won by 17 on the first innings. Northcote, 169 and 4 for 36 (Walker 20); Parkville, 152 (Landy 4 for 36).

Northcote Presbyterian B play the game of the season against Preston at Thornbury. Supporters are requested to be present.

Preston Presbyterians, 9 for 171 (Payne 51, Boyd 35, Froebel 21, Holden 17 not out) v South Yarra, 44 and 57 (Froebel 5 for 20, Bartley 5 for 22, Carson 7 for 18). Won by an innings and 90.

Preston Methodist v. Carlton. Scores—Carlton, 151 (L. Punch 4 for 7, Freeman 1 for 18, W. Punch 2 for 33, Westcott 1 for for 16); Preston, 3 for 35 (W. Punch 20, S. Westcott 10). The match will be concluded to-day.

BOWLING.

FOUR-RINK PENNANT.

Preston played Middle Park at Preston last Saturday.

MIDDLE PARK, 159.

1. Tress, Chesterfield, McGregor, Bain	45
2. Butler, Hartley, Low, Farr ...	38
3. Capeness, Scott, Heby, Bowman ...	47
4. Livingstone, Vagg, Reid, Parker ...	29

PRESTON, 62.

1. Box, Howe, Strahle, Broadhurst ...	12
2. Bartley, C. Wilkinson, A. S. Wilkinson, Pike	18
3. Crispe, jnr., Robinson, Stanlake, Crispe	11
4. Du Bourg, Arch Wilkinson, Paterson, Walker	21

Thornbury played Carlton on the green of the latter.

CARLTON, 124.

1. Lethbridge, Lewis, Kemp, Bowes ...	33
2. Stacey, Elliott, Wright, Shaw ...	29
3. Hush, Brunton, Cook, Thompson ...	27
4. Goldsmith, Scales, Crawley, Mau ...	35

THORNBURY, 77.

1. Adams, Workman, Stephens, Whalley	20
2. Cogle, Smith, Brown, Duran ...	20
3. Ingham, Harry, Johnston, Gilpin ...	19
4. Harris, Wittenbach, Boyd, Dickason	18

Thornbury play Camberwell at Camberwell to-day.

Preston and Armadale meet at Preston.

THREE-RINK PENNANT.

Thornbury played Canterbury on the local green.

THORNBURY, 99.

1. Downing, Reid, Littlejohn, Simpson	30
2. McDougall, Lewis, Denny, Whiteoak	32
3. Lizard, Norton, Farley, McGregor ...	30

CANTERBURY, 65.

1. Bailey, McConnell, Pregillas, Dickie	22
2. Hickey, Black, Peacock, Phair ...	21
3. Sherar, Holmes, Spence, Grice ...	22

Preston and South Melbourne played on the green of the latter, South winning by 90 to 47.

Box Hill A and Northcote played a close game on the Box Hill green, the scores being—Box Hill, 75; Northcote, 70.

Thornbury plays Armadale at Thornbury to-day.

Preston and Richmond Union play at Richmond.

Thornbury played a friendly four rink match against Northcote on Thursday evening.

THORNBURY 90.

1. Adams, Cogle, McEwan, Brown ...	34
2. Meakin, Harry, Johnson, Gilpin ...	25
3. Littlejohn, Downing, Farley, McGregor...	21
4. Harris, Wittenbach, Boyd, Dickason	10

NORTHCOTE, 80.

1. McIntosh, Salmon, Magnus, Bennell	14
2. Saunders, Black, Tribe, Mitchell ...	11
3. Treloaven, Brown, Girling, Rendle...	20
4. Allen, Marsden, Cox, Taylor ...	35

Thornbury will play a four-rink match against Footscray on Tuesday night, and against Preston on Thursday night.

Section 3 of the Thornbury night tournament was played on Tuesday. Collins (Richmond) beat Bradshaw (Kew) 24—17. Howes (Carlton) beat Robbie (E. Melb.) 23—22. Strahle (Preston) beat Harper (Collingwood) 25—18. Prout (Flemington) beat Dickason (Thornbury) 25—14. Section 4 was played on Thursday. Pascoe (Melbourne) beat Bowman (Middle Park) 23—21. Hancock (Princes Park) beat Purves (Camberwell) 21—16. Forster (Collingwood) beat Scheele (N. Fitzroy) 24—12. Cant (N. Fitzroy) beat Simpson (Thornbury) 21—16.

Wanted

GOOD General, small family. "Highfield," Morri street, Northcote.

Wanted to Sell.

MOTOR CYCLE, 2¼ h.p., spring forks, Longuemare carburetter, in good order. Price, £20. 100 Darebin street, Northcote.

SOCIETIES.

The half-yearly meeting of the Star of Northcote Tent, I.O.R., was held on Thursday evening, 9th inst., the C.R. (Bro. A. Glandfield) presiding over a good attendance of members. An appeal from the Preston tent was made on behalf of the widow of the late Bro. G. Tolly, and a sum of 10s 6d was donated; 5s was also donated to the I.O.R. junior picnic. Two new members were initiated. The following officers were elected for the ensuing half-year:—C.R., Bro. W. Findlay; D.R., Bro H. Morris; P.C.R., Bro. A. Glanfield; treasurer, Bro. C. E. Lacey; secretary, Bro. J. C. Newnham; assistant secretary, Bro. T. F. Harris; M.S., Bro. O. Neumann; W.S., Bro. W. Barkway; levite, Bro. A. Fillingham; guardian, Bro. H. Angus; auditors, Bros. W. H. Gray and J. Alder; press correspondent, Bro. T. F. Harris; "Rechabite" agent, Bro. W. Findlay. The new set of officers were installed by P.C.R. Bro. Glanfield. It was decided that the best thanks of the tent be recorded in the minutes to the retiring officers. An offer of a lecture on "Motor Power" was accepted, and it was decided to have same at the tent meeting on January 20th. The receipts amounted to over £130.

The Northcote branch A.N.A. held their fortnightly meeting on Thursday night last. There was a very fair attendance and much business was gone through, including the adoption of the new syllabus for the ensuing half-year, which is a very interesting one. One new member was proposed. On Thursday night next the branch are having a children's night and a Christmas tree in the main hall. The item on the syllabus was "Impromptu speaking," and there were some very interesting efforts made.

The P.A.F.S. held their meeting in the Rechabite hall on Thursday evening last. The quarterly balance sheet and returns were read by the secretary, and showed a very satisfactory state of affairs. The following office-bearers have been duly installed for the ensuing six months:—W.M., Bro. L. Roberts; P.M., Bro. C. Cameron; D.M., Bro. C. Loyal; secretary, Bro. Jas. Newborn; assistant secretary, Bro. J. G. Brown; treasurer, Bro. Ellison; chaplain, Bro. W. Richards; S.E., Bro. J. Dickson, J.E., Bro. T. Roberts; I.G., Bro. A. G. Bennett. Members are anticipating a real good time next Thursday evening, when they are having a Xmas tree in conjunction with the lady P.A.F.S. in the Friendly Societies' hall.

Croxton Recreation Ground.

The following are the results of the sports held at Croxton recreation ground on Saturday evening last:—

Sheffield handicap.—J. Dalglish, 16 yds., 1; J. Downs, 16 yds., 2; T. Cochrane, 16 yds., 3.

Dog handicap.—C. Orr's Captain Cook, 2½ yds., 1; Miss McLellan's La Milton, 3 yds., 2.

Ladies' bracelet.—H. Court, 200 yds., 1; J. Clay, 240 yds., 2; A. Phillips, 240 yds., 3.

N.R.C.C. 1 mile.—P. J. Slattery, scratch, 1; T. W. Murphy, 160 yds., 2; A. Phillips, 140 yds., 3.

P.D.C.C. 1 mile.—E. Bainbridge, 1; B. Brothers, 2; G. L. Chapman, 3.

Grand concert and dancing competitions are announced for this evening, and there will be concerts on Monday and Thursday evening. The latter will be an "All Scotch" night.

Bereavement Notices.

MRS. HECTOR FERGUSON wishes to convey her grateful thanks to her many friends for their sincere expressions of sympathy, for their many acts of kindness, and for their comforting and sustaining words during the most trying days of her sad bereavement.

Clarke street, Northcote.

THE Rev. FERGUS FERGUSON and Miss FERGUSON desire to return their sincere thanks for personal sympathy, letters and telegrams in connection with their sad bereavement.

Amusements.

READ THIS!

MONSTER BIOSCOPIC DISPLAY at the NORTHCOTE PARK
TO-NIGHT! TO-NIGHT! TO-NIGHT!
and every Saturday.
REALISTIC & BRILLIANT PICTURES.
Popular Selections by Military Band.

NOTE.—Concerts as usual Xmas and New Year's Nights.
Special Holiday Programmes.
Every child attending on Xmas night receives a bag of best sweets.
Popular Prices: Adults 3d, Children 1d.
G. JENKINS, Director.
G. POCKNALL, Hon. Sec.

CROXTON RECREATION GROUND.

TO-NIGHT, Grand Programme by Favorite Artists; also Sailors' Hornpipe Competition. Come and see the Roth Bros., the famous cross-fire patter team; also Australia's Champion Young Dancer, Miss Lily Dale (winner of 200 prizes), and others.

CROXTON RECREATION GROUND.

Monday Evening next, Favorite Artists in Illustrated Songs, etc.
Scotch Gathering, Thursday evening, 23rd (all Scotch night). Come and see the Kilties, Scotch Comedians, Singers, Dancers, Pipers, etc.
H. W. BALHARRY, Promoter.

ALEXANDRA COLLEGE, Northcote.

The 19th Annual Demonstration will be held in All Saints' Schoolroom on Tuesday, 21st December, commencing at 8 p.m. Splendid Programme, including Cantata, "The Doll's Wedding." Prizes will be distributed by Mr. J. G. Membrey, M.L.A. Admission 6d.

The Palace of
LIVING PICTURES.

Right opposite the Terminus of Clifton Hill and Northcote Trams.

OPENING Night:
WEDNESDAY NEXT.
Comfortable Seats Assured.

BRILLIANT ATTRACTIONS.
Military Band Promenade
GRAND BIOSCOPIC ENTERTAINMENT.
Soulthorpe's Latest Pictures.
6000 feet Up-to-Date Pictures Nightly.
Entire Change of Programme.

Save all your City Fares & see Melbourne's Best Pictures.

Adults, 6d. Children, half-price.

A GRAND BAZAAR, in aid of St. Peter's Church, will be held in the SHIRE HALL, EPPING, on BOXING DAY (Monday, 27th December). To be opened at 3 p.m. by Cr. McCormack, President of the Shire. Hosts of Attractions. Prize for Best Comic Song, gentleman (amateur). Prize for Best Sentimental Song, lady (amateur).

FITZROY MUNICIPAL BATHS.
FITZROY MUNICIPAL BATHS.
Junction of Queen's Parade and Alexandra Parade, close to Brunswick Street and Smith Street Trams.
OPEN DAILY from 6 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. Sundays, 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.
MAGNIFICENT SWIMMING BATHS.
Men's Basin, 175ft. x 80ft., depth 2ft. 6in. to 7ft. 6in., is the largest in Victoria. Will accommodate 1000 bathers and 2000 spectators. Fitted with 3 Spring Boards, Diving Stage, Water Slide, Punching Ball, &c., &c.
Women's Basin, 70ft. x 30ft., depth 2ft. 6in. to 6ft. 6in. Fitted with Spring Board, Diving Stage, Mirrors, Dressing Boxes, &c.
Charges for Admission:—Adults 3d, Juniors 2d and 1d. Packets of 12 tickets:—Adults 2/6, Juniors 1/9. Monthly tickets 5/. (Concessions are made to members of recognised Swimming Clubs).
SLIPPER BATHS with Hot and Cold Water and Showers, fixed up with every convenience, 1s for Males and 6d for Females, are READY AT ALL HOURS. Males—1st class 9d, 2nd class 6d. Females—1st class 6d.
A. BATSON, Town Clerk.

See Stott & Bastings
for
ALLOTMENTS
in
BAYVIEW
ESTATE

Buy a
Block in
Beautiful
Bayview.

Streets Formed, Channelled, and Metalled.

Frontages:

Major St.,	45/ to 80/ ft.
Membrey St.	35/ to 47/6 ft.
Clarke St.	35/ to 57/6 ft.
Mason St.	27/6 ft.
Waterloo Rd.	27/6 ft.

TERMS: One-fifth Deposit; balance quarterly up to 2 years; 5 per cent. interest.

TITLE, CERTIFICATE.

Plans may be had from

Stott & Bastings,
207 High Street, Northcote,
Tel. 1976.
Preston and Fairfield.

Ernest Lees,
Auctioneer,
Estate, & Financial Agent,
HAS OPENED A
Branch of his Business
AT
Jenkin's News Agency,
No. 106 HIGH ST.,
NORTHCOTE SOUTH.

A. THARRATT,
Timber & Hardware Merchant,

Thanks his customers for their patronage during the last twelve months, and wishes them "all Christmas joys."

We carry full stocks of
ALL BUILDING MATERIALS
which are kept UNDER COVER.
Our prices are quite as cheap as any in the City and only first quality sold.

We have a complete steam plant doing our own sawing, moulding, planing, band sawing and turning, and are prepared to execute any class of work, undertaking to give **honest value, civility,** and **attention,** and trust for a continuance of the support so cordially given in the past.

A. THARRATT,
341 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.
Telephone 2606

Auction Notices.

AUCTION SALES.
STOTT AND BASTINGS.
THIS DAY.
At 3.45 o'clock at the Property, "Wilcannia," 12 Ballantyne Street, UPPER NORTHCOTE.
D.F.W.B. VILLA, 7 rooms, etc., on land 66ft. x 134ft. 6in.

STOTT & BASTINGS, 207 High Street, Northcote, Preston, and Fairfield.

THIS DAY.
At 3 o'clock, on the premises,
No. 16 MILTON STREET PRESTON SOUTH.
D.F.W.B. HOUSE, containing 6 rooms, on land 82 x 103.
Also ALLOTMENT, Gower Street.

STOTT & BASTINGS, Auctioneer, 207 High Street, Northcote; in conjunction with A. ROBERTSON, Preston.

ERNEST LEES, Auctioneer, High St., Northcote, will sell by Auction THIS DAY (Saturday) at 3 p.m., on premises, "Corkiala," Harold Street, Northcote, near Thornbury station, Queen Anne VILLA, 6 rooms, &c., with stable, coach-house, feed-room, &c. Land, 99 x 134ft. 6in.

Local Government.

SHIRE OF PRESTON.

TENDERS are invited, returnable up to 4 p.m. on Monday, 20th December, for the supply of Maintenance Metal as hereunder:—

1. 250 cubic yards 2-inch, Sec. 1, High Street.
2. 250 cubic yards 2-inch, Sec. 1, Plenty Road.
3. 250 cubic yards 2½ 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 EPPING.

TENDERS for the undermentioned works will be received at the Shire Hall, Epping, to 12 noon on Monday, 20th December, 1909.

Supplying 700 yds. Metal, Main Road, Epping.
100 yds. Metal, Merriang (Blue or Flint Metal).
10 chains Gravelling, Merriang.

By order,
JAMES RYAN,
Shire Secretary.

SHIRE OF PRESTON.

Special Order, Monday, 6th December, 1909, agreeing to and adopting Regulation No. 15, amending regulation No. 14 relating to Building Regulations:—That is to say:—General purport:—The words "one thousand (1000) square feet at least" in Clause 5 of Regulation are hereby repealed and the following words are to be read in lieu thereof:—"five hundred (500) square feet at least in cases where the building or erection consists of less than four rooms and six hundred (600) square feet at least in cases where the building or erection consists of four (4) or more rooms."

The Council of the Shire of Preston will meet on Monday, 10th January, 1910, at 7 p.m., at the Shire Hall, for the purpose of confirming the resolution agreeing to and adopting the said proposed Regulation, copies of which are deposited at the office of the Council, High Street, Preston, and are there open for the inspection of any person at all reasonable times.

T. J. WITHRINGTON,
Shire Secretary.

Shire Offices, Preston,
18th December, 1909.

Tenders.

FENCING.—Tenders wanted for Fencing the Northcote Brick Co's. Works, Separation street, Northcote.

Houses and Land For Sale.

HILLSIDE Estate, Preston. Marvellous value. Don't delay. 40ft. blocks from 1/6 weekly. No deposit. No interest. Full particulars, A. Robertson, corner High and Bell streets, Preston.

McGEORGE BROS., AUCTIONEER, Subdivisional Land Salesmen, Insurance Experts, and Rent Collectors, 323 HIGH STREET, PRESTON (Murray station).
AUCTION ROOMS, Sydney Road, corner The Grove, MORELAND.

PRESTON.
BETTER THAN BUILDING SOCIETIES.
£50 deposit and 13/6 week, including interest.
NEW QUEEN ANNE VILLA, 5 rooms, latest finish, land 40 x 165, at station. Highest Position. Free Railway Pass. This Villa is let at 13/6 per week. Cards to view from McGEORGE BROS., Local Auctioneer.

PRESTON.
GENTLEMAN'S HOME, 11 acres of Land, Subdivided and beautifully laid out in grass paddocks, orchard, flower and vegetable garden. The Villa is a most complete structure of brick, Queen Anne design, 8 rooms, hollow walls, with every possible comfort, and in perfect order, with stabling and outbuildings of every requirement. Convenient distance to station and enjoying an uninterrupted view of the country in every direction. Order of inspection at the offices of the Auctioneer, McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.
£50 Deposit and 25/ week will buy a SUPERIOR HOME, 7 rooms and usual conveniences, about 1½ acres of land. Fruit trees, shrubbery, usual outbuildings. Suitable for retired people or City business man. Early inspection invited. McGEORGE BROS., Valuers.

PRESTON.—Large selection Brick and W.B. Cottages, all parts of district. Reasonable rent terms arranged. Land buyers, consult us. Plans and all information gratis. McGeorge Bros., Auctioneer.

PRESTON.—New Villa, 5 rooms, conveniences, designed for comfort, also high position, land 40 x 120, £275. Easy rent terms. McGeorge Bros., local.

PRESTON.—Must sell. Sacrifice. New Queen Anne villa, 5 large rooms, poultry houses, land 57 x 143, delightful position, £335. Terms. McGeorge Bros., Auctioneer, Murray station.

GOOD NEWS! GOOD NEWS!

H. ADAMS,
BUTCHER,
322 High Street, Northcote
(Late W. H. TACEY).

The Cheapest First-Class Butcher in Northcote.

Call and Inspect our Goods and be Convinced.

H.A. can supply the Best Quality at prices never heard of before in Northcote.

The Workingman must have Nourishing Food. Do not be misled.

LADIES! Do you want strong, robust children? Avoid poor meat and buy the best.

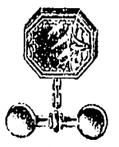
Our Sausages are a breakfast treat.
TRY THEM.
Telephone 114, Brunswick.

Xmas & New Year Presents

9ct., 8/6

Plain, Curb, and Fancy, from 25/-

Brooches, 9 ct., from 5/-



Links, 9 & 15 ct., from 10/-

Compare My Prices Before Purchasing Elsewhere.

WM. WALKER,
92 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE STH.
REPAIRS A SPECIALITY.

SOMETHING EXTRA SPECIAL
FOR CHRISTMAS.
1000 Prime Sugar-Cured Mutton Hams at 3½d lb.

Prime dairy-fed Pork from our own farm at Epping. Legs Pork, fresh or corned, in great demand.

Order Early to avoid disappointment.

Pork Hams, 10d lb.—none better in the country at the price. Cured on the premises by our expert small goods man.

SAUSAGES SAUSAGES SAUSAGES
2½d lb. or 6 lbs. for 1/-

Greenbone fresh daily 1½d lb., or 9 lbs. for 1/-

SINCLAIR THE PEOPLE'S BUTCHER . . .
280 High Street, Northcote.

We close all day Saturday (Christmas Day) and Monday (Boxing Day).

MISS GRINDLAY,
DRESSMAKER,
"RAVENNA," DERBY AVENUE, UPPER NORTHCOTE,
rear Kimberley Hall.
Evening and Wedding Dresses a Specialty.

MISS CROOK desires to intimate that she has started business at 379 HIGH STREET, PRESTON, as a DRESSMAKER and UNDERCLOTHIER and Haberdashery and Fancy Lines stocked.

FOR SMART, UP-TO-DATE MILLINERY
AT REASONABLE PRICES
call on
MRS. E. A. MILLS,
MILLINER and COSTUMIER,
249 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.
Ladies' Own Materials Made Up. Renovations a Specialty.

XMAS FAIR!

now proceeding at

HATTAM & HATTAM'S

High Street, Northcote.

See our Special Display of
MILLINERY & STRAWS,
Also,
BOOTS & SHOES,
at CLEARING Prices.

Our Underclothing and Costume Window is arrayed with Stylish and Seasonable Requirements at Very Special Prices.

Also Men's Shirts, Hats, Ties and Suits all at Xmas Fair Prices.

Very Special!
- Half-Guinea Shoes at 6/11 See them.
- White Muslin Blouses at 2/11 and 4/11 See them.
- 50 different patterns Crepe Cloth, 5½d yd. Will wash.

HATTAM & HATTAM,
Drapers, Northcote.

CHRISTMAS FAIR NOW ON.

HOLIDAYS ARE COMING

YOU WILL WANT

A NEW HAT
A NEW DRESS
A NEW BLOUSE
A NEW SUIT
A NEW TIE

TRY F. G. SMITH,
DRAPER & MILLINER,
Specialities: Ladies' Handkerchiefs, Gents' Ties
245 High Street, Northcote

Father Christmas
AT
BEST & CO.'S

We have arranged with Father Xmas to spend Friday, the 24th, at our store. He purposes taking up his abode in our window that day. Bring the children to see him—it will please them and cost you nothing.

Father Xmas has sent us a fine assortment of

XMAS NOVELTIES

TOYS for the Children—
Dolls, Guns, Drums, Balls, Bats, Animals, Arks, Whips, Carts, Prams, Horses, Tea Sets, &c., &c.

TIES, Shirts, Sox, &c., &c, for Father, Brother & Uncle

GLOVES, Collars, Handkerchiefs, &c., &c., for Mother, Sister, and Aunt.

Van Loads of Useful & Natty Presents for your friends.
Perfumes, a nice selection from 3d bottle
Handkerchiefs, from 1d each.
Neckwear, a lovely lot at all prices

Seaside Hats for Ladies, Gentlemen, & Children
We have a few left and all are being sold at less than makers' cost.

Children! Bring your parents to see Father Xmas at
Best & Co's. Drapery Establishment,
HIGH ST., UPPER NORTHCOTE.

PRESTON SHIRE COUNCIL.

MONDAY, 13TH DECEMBER.

Present:—Crs. Howe (president), Robertson, Crispe, Wilkinson, Warr, Stanlake, Allchin and Paterson.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

The Railway Department wrote stating the council's request for the better lighting of the Regent street station had been referred for report.—Received.

The department also wrote stating they did not consider they would be justified in going to the expense of erecting the four lamps that would be necessary to light the footway from Bell station.

Cr. Warr said it was evident from this that the department recognised the need of more light there, and he would move that the secretary write to the department asking them to put two lamps there.

Cr. Wilkinson seconded. Carried.

PAYMENTS FOR STREET CONSTRUCTION.

Isaac Barrow wrote stating that pending receipt of counsel's opinion he desired to formally notify the council that he must adhere to the conditions laid down in his previous letter, viz. that he would not avail himself of the extended terms and was prepared to *pay not only the amount but actual cost* of the proposed works.—Received.

DUST PREVENTION.

The town clerk, Melbourne, wrote forwarding copy of resolutions passed at conference re dust prevention.

Cr. Wilkinson reported having attended the conference, where, he said, the delegates took the matter very seriously indeed. The chief recommendation was that in municipalities where it is feasible the roadways be coated with tar, and, where practicable, grass and trees planted on the sides. He (Cr. Wilkinson) suggested that the contributions of the municipalities be pooled, as it would be quite impossible for Preston, with its great length of roadways, to carry out the recommendation.

FROM CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION.

W. Ward, sec. Preston Citizens' Progressive Association, wrote thanking council for action taken re houses in Showers street; also calling attention to the fact that the large number of cattle wandering about the west riding, especially at night, was dangerous to traffic. The association would also like the council to take steps to prevent cattle pits being substituted for the gates at Bruce street crossing, from which the gatekeeper's cottage is to be removed.

Cr. Stanlake moved and Cr. Warr seconded that the inspector's attention be called to the complaint re wandering cattle.—Carried.

THE MERRI CREEK.

The town clerk, Northcote, wrote forwarding resolutions passed at conference re improvement of the Merri Creek; also intimating that owing to extreme pressure of business the Premier could not receive a deputation as proposed but he would consult the representatives for the districts interested.—Received.

ANALYSIS OF FOODS.

The Board of Public Health wrote intimating that the council had not sent in any samples of food and drink for analysis. The council was warned that in the event of neglect during the current year the board would exercise its powers in regard to councils in default.

Cr. Stanlake moved and Cr. Wilkinson seconded that the letter be received and the board informed that the neglect occurred through exchange of officers.

DIPHTHERIA CASES.

The Infectious Diseases Hospital wrote intimating that two cases of diphtheria had been received from Preston—Sporton Jones, Albert street, and Phyllis McPherson, Preston.—Received.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

Cr. Robertson (chairman) submitted the report, recommending—

1. That accounts amounting to £81 1s 9d be passed for payment.—Adopted.

2. Right-of-way between Gower street and Town hall avenue.—That consideration be deferred to next committee meeting.—Adopted.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Cr. Stanlake (chairman) submitted the report, recommending—

1. That accounts amounting to £129 6s 1d be passed for payment.—Adopted.

2. Report of Weights and Measures Union.—That the report be received and the account paid.—Adopted.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

Cr. Paterson (chairman) submitted the report, recommending—

1. That accounts amounting to £871 0s be passed for payment.—Adopted.

2. Report of Weights and Measures Union.—That the report be received and the account paid.—Adopted.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

Cr. Paterson (chairman) submitted the report, recommending—

1. That accounts amounting to £1296 1d be passed for payment.—Adopted.

2. Report of Weights and Measures Union.—That the report be received and the account paid.—Adopted.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

Cr. Paterson (chairman) submitted the report, recommending—

1. That accounts amounting to £871 0s

Northcote Leader.

Largest Circulation and Best Advertising Medium in the Northern Districts. Circulating throughout Northcote, Preston, Thomastown, Epping, Diamond Creek, Arthur's Creek, Whittlesea, Fairfield, Heidelberg, Clifton Hill

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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1909.

Printed and published by the proprietors, R. J. and J. S. WHALLEY, at their office, 84 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.

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

All kinds of Produce at Lowest Rates
Sole Agent for Northcote of Celebrated Sickle Brand of RETORTED CHARCOAL.

A. WATSON'S

HAY & CORN STORE.
Wood & Coke Yard,
is at
354 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.

J. KIDD,

Only infuse Corn, Wood & Coal Merchant,

480 High Street, Northcote,

HAS ON SALE—
Chaff, Oats, Bran, Pollard, Wheat, Maize, Lucerne Chaff,
And all kinds of Poultry Feed.

Agent for Singer's and Pratt's Poultry Food.

Best Box Blocks, Maitland and Pelaw Main Coal.

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.
Ladies' Costumes a Speciality.

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,
249 High St., Northcote.

Cleanliness, Civility, Attention.
Razor Setting a Speciality.

J. W. DURANCE,
(Late of Cathcart's)
Watchmaker,
Fifth floor Equitable Buildings, Collins St., City,
Repairs Watches of all kinds,
Sells Reliable Levers, Gold, Silver, Gun Metal.
Private Address: 33 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 1856.

ALFRED ALLISON,
UNDERTAKER,
Head Office—221 Victoria St.,
Tel. 960. WEST MELB.
High Street, Northcote.
Queen's Parade, Clifton Hill.
Tel. 8776.

All Funeral arrangements promptly attended to.
Charges Moderate | Terms Arranged

FIRST-CLASS CHINESE LAUNDRY
AH HAY,
HIGH STREET, THORNBURY
(next Post Office).

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.,
The Noted Cheap Cash Grocers,
High Street Northcote, Thornbury, & Preston.
XMAS PRICE-LIST:

New Currants, 6½d	Conversations and Peppermints, 4½ lb.
Best Sultanas, 7½d	Xmas Cake, 6d lb.
New Raisins, 6d lb.	Ginger Cake, 6d lb.
Plum Puddings, 10½d, 1/4½, and 2/3	Table Jellies, 10½d doz.
New Figs, 5½d box	Custard Powders, 9d doz.
,, Dates, 4d lb.	Dried Herbs, 1d packet
Soft shell Almonds, 8d lb.	Preserved Pineapples, 5d tin
Barcelona Nuts, 7½d lb.	Preserved Pears, 8½d
Chocolate Mixtures, 6d lb.	Xmas Cakes, 1/1, 1/3, and 2/ each

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
BACON CURERS
AND
Small Goods Manufacturers.
(Phone 360).
NORTHCOTE, Vic.

Champion & First Prize Winners for HAMS and BACON at the Royal Agricultural Show, Melb.

All Goods Manufactured under the supervision of the Central Board of Health

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 & Frankforts are just the thing for the Tea & Breakfast Table.

FACTORY & 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.

C. POWER,
Cartage Contractor,
37 CHARLES ST., NORTHCOTE.
Phone 311, Brunswick.

Lorrys, Drays, and Teams for all classes of Carting.

Back Loading from the City a Speciality.

COAL delivered to householders at lowest market rates.

TO Have the Least Possible Expense and the Greatest Comfort in Cooking, use a

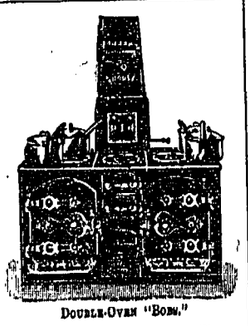
"BOBS"
(burns coal or wood)

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—419 Bourke Street, Melbourne
(opposite Kirk's Bazaar.)



DOUBLE-OVEN "BOBS."

Sole Manufacturers of the Beadle Patent Cast Iron Revolving Washing oppor Frames, suitable for Dairymen, Butchers, and ordinary household use.
Very Durable and Economical. Write for Catalogues.

WHAT IS ESSENTIAL
to add to your comfort during the summer months is
A GAS STOVE,
which will save you endless drudgery in the kitchen.

On rental at the rate of 1/6 per month, or—

On Hire Purchase System: Small deposit and from 2/- month.

A GAS STOVE is indispensable and also means EFFICIENCY, CLEANLINESS, and RIGID ECONOMY.
COOKING BY GAS means a saving of half the labor necessary with other methods, besides keeping the kitchen clean and the temperature down to a minimum.

The Metropolitan Gas Company,
186 FLINDERS ST., MELBOURNE.
Phone Nos. 820, 890, 907, 9715.

Business Announcements

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-at-out Bals., 8/6	Youths' strong leather, 1 to 5, 4/11
Youths' Box, strong leather, 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.

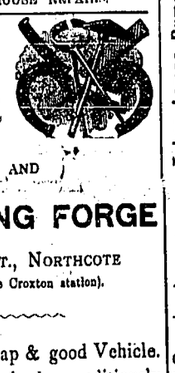
Bring your old boots to be made new. Repairs a leading factor

DIMMICK, Manufacturer & Retailer
245 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.

Above is the well-known establishment of

F. PIKE, General House Decorator,
GRAINER, SIGNWRITER, &c.,
PLENTY ROAD, SOUTH PRESTON.
All kinds of Builders' Ironmongery, Lime, Cement, &c., stocked. Oils, Colors, Glass, &c. at Lowest Rates. The smallest as well as the largest jobs undertaken.
ESTIMATES GIVEN FOR ALL KINDS OF HOUSE REPAIRS.

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 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 file 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.

THE
Orient Marine & Stationary
3½ H.P. ENGINES 100 H.P.
Made for all Shipping and Farm Purposes.

Suppliers to the Victorian Government, Ports and Harbours, Health Department, Goldfields Diamond Drilling Co.

Guaranteed for 12 Months.

Particulars on application to
C. S. DEAN,
Motor Manufacturer, Mentone.
CASH or TERMS. Phone 71 Chelt.

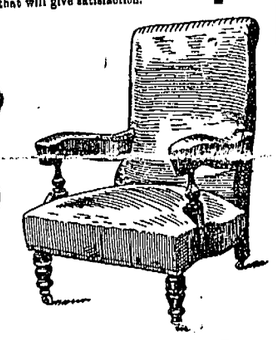
A Trio of Specials

No matter what your purchase from CLAUSCEN'S might be, you can always rely on getting the best workmanship and materials at the lowest possible price. Our 25 years' reputation as Melbourne's Leading House Furnishers stands behind every article we sell. The chairs illustrated are splendid value at the prices—strongly and well put together—artistic, comfortable, and durable—chairs that will give satisfaction.

Splendid Easy Chair,
Handsomely upholstered in
Tapestry, £2 2/6.
Saddlebags, £2 5/.
Art Serge Cretonne, £1 17/6.

Furniture for the Drawing Room, Dining Room, and Bedroom at CLAUSCEN'S.

Saddlebag Easy Chair, nicely upholstered in best saddlebag or Utrecht Velvet; numerous shapes and designs, £3 15/-.



A splendidly-made chair, strong frame, nicely upholstered in Art Serge, Cretonne, £1 7/6; Tapestry or Saddlebag, £ .

Clauscen & Co., FURNISHING ARCADE, 194-6 Bourke St., City.

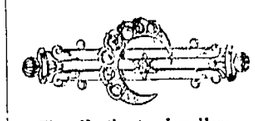
RIDE A "MOA" CYCLE
SWIFT, LIGHT AND STRONG.

We Leave all Others Behind!

Three Grades—
The Moa dps £14 10s | The Moa No 2, £12 10s | The Moa No 3 £8 10s

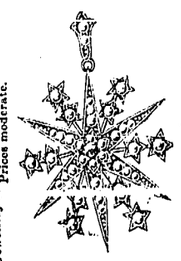
BUILT AT THE
"Moa" Cycle Works, 218 High St., Northcote.
W. MERSON. Established 1894.

Large Stock Secondhand Cycles. Repairs, Nickelling, &c.
Repairs Done on Premises. Notice. Workmanship Guaranteed.
Cover, Tubes, Lamps, Pumps—all Makes and Prices.



The Northcote Jewellers.

Angove & Fettling
232 HIGH ST. (opp. Meth. Church).



Large assortment of Watches, Clocks, Jewellery. Electroplate always on hand. Prices moderate.

Nurses.

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. Heliers,"
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.

Announcements

PURE BRED POULTRY.
FIRST-CLASS LAYING STRAINS.
BROWN LEGHORN HENS,
Bred from Dookie Competition Pens, mated to cock imported by Mr. H. Bunneman.
Settings, 3/6 and 10/6.
SILVER WYANDOTTES,
Bred from Mr. Bunneman, Dookie Competition Winners.
Settings, 7/6. Unfertile replaced.
YOUNG STOCK FOR SALE.
Correspondence invited.
A. C. W. BAILEY.
WOLLERT, via EPPING.

Eggs! Eggs!! Eggs!!!
THE VICTORIAN EGG-LAYING COMPETITION,
Hastings Street, Northcote,
Under the auspices of "The Poultry Kennel World,"
A Real Object Lesson, the Latest and Most Up-to-Date Method of Poultry-Keeping.
2000 Birds can be kept on an acre on this system.
The Very Thing for Small Holders and Suburban Poultry-Keepers.
Admission 6d (Sunday excepted).
H. MCKENZIE, Manager,
"Burnette," Hastings St., Northcote.

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.

Carpenters.

W. Gribble,
CARPENTER and JOINER,
HOUSE REPAIRER,
231 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE (near Methodist Church).
Saws, Scissors, and Lawn Mowers Set and Sharpened.
Venetian Blinds Painted, Re-Taped and Corded.
Vienna Chairs and Furniture Repaired and Stained like New.
Household Requirements in Wood.

AN AUSTRALIAN SPRAY
FOR
AUSTRALIAN ORCHARDS.
AUSTRAL" BRAND
ARSENATE OF LEAD
FOR
CODLIN MOTH
AND ALL LEAF-EATING INSECTS.
IS RELIABLE AND UNIFORM.

1lb. tins at 10d lb.		28lb. ,, 8d ,, lb.	
2lb. ,, 10d ,,		56lb. ,, 7½d ,,	
7lb. ,, 9d ,,		112lb. ,, 7d ,,	
14lb. ,, 8½d ,,			

MANUFACTURED BY
A. J. JENKINS, Chemist,
CLIFTON HILL

A. SANQUINETTI,
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).

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.

Tailors

FOR UP-TO-DATE CLOTHING AND REAL GOOD VALUE
go to
INCE BROS.,
TAILORS & OUTFITTERS.
Suits from £3 3/. Trousers from 15/6
Ladies' Costumes a Speciality.
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 the utmost despatch.

Don't forget the only address—
Our Tailors,"
VEREY & CROSS,
242 SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD.

ARCH. WILKINSON,
TAILOR and MERCER,
Plenty Road & Garnet Streets,
SOUTH PRESTON.

Special Novelties
for the
Holiday Season.

Fashion's Soft Summer Shirts in great variety.
Our Straw Hats are a Special Line.
We have a large assortment of TIES suitable for Xmas and New Year Presents. All the Latest Colors in wide ends.
SEE THE DISPLAY IN OUR WINDOWS.
Suits to Order from £2 2s

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. A Work Guaranteed.

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.

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

SEWERAGE!
IS YOUR HOUSE CONNECTED?
If not—
R. H. NELSON,
LICENSED SANITARY PLUMBER
and
SEWERAGE CONTRACTOR,
COLLINS STREET, THORNBURY
(Upper Northcote)

Will give you a GOOD, SOUND and RELIABLE JOB.
TWELVE MONTHS' GUARANTEE GIVEN EACH CONTRACT.
Post Cards promptly attended to.
Estimates for all classes of work submitted.

Water Meters Fixed.
JOHN SHAW,
(Licensed by the M. & M. B. W.)
LICENSED PLUMBER,
GASFITTER,
ELECTRIC & WIRE BELLHANGER,
303 HIGH STREET,
NORTHCOTE.
Estimates Given for Sewer Connections.
Post Cards attended to.

For Sale.

FIRST-CLASS Garden Soil (rich, black loam) for Sale.—J. Millet, Beavers Pl., Northcote.

Church Notices.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, NORTHCOTE

Sunday Services:
Christmas Day—8 a.m., Holy Communion; 10.30 a.m., Rev. A. C. KELLAWAY.
Sunday, 26th December—11 a.m., Rev. A. C. KELLAWAY; 7 p.m., Rev. C. H. BARNES.
Wednesday, 8 p.m., Rev. C. B. HANNAH, from West China.
Friday, 31st, 11.15 p.m., Watchnight Service, Rev. A. C. KELLAWAY.

HOLY TRINITY, THORNBURY.

Christmas Day: Holy Com., 7.30 a.m. Choral Matins and Holy Eucharist, 10.30 a.m.
St. Stephen, M. (1st Sunday after Xmas). 8 a.m., Holy Communion; 11 a.m., Choral Matins and Holy Communion with Farewell Sermon; 4.15 p.m., Holy Baptism; 7 p.m., Choral Evensong and Farewell Sermon.
St. John, A.E. (27th), H.C., 6.30 a.m. Holy Innocents (28 h), H.C., 11 a.m. New Year's Eve, Solemn Evensong, 11.30 p.m. New Year's Day, H.C., 12.5 a.m.

CROXTON METHODIST HALL, Corner Shaftesbury Parade and St. George's Road.

Sunday, 26th December.
7 p.m., Mr. J. CHERRELL.
Sunday School at 2.30.

NORTHCOTE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (JAMES ST.)

Sabbath Services:
Rev. R. W. ROCK, morning and evening.
Seats free. All cordially welcome.
Young Men's Bible Class at 3. Leader, J. B. Clarke, M.A.

DIVINE SERVICE will be conducted in the Campbell Grove Hall on Sunday evening, 26th December, at 7 o'clock, by Mr. W. P. SINCLAIR. Subject: "Is Life Worth Living?" Sunday School (senior classes) at 3 o'clock.

NORTHCOTE BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday Services:
Preacher—Rev. T. NICHOL, morning and evening. Special Sermons.
Watchnight Service, Friday, 11.30 p.m.
All welcome to all services.

NORTHCOTE METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday Services:
Morning, Rev. T. ALDAY.
Evening, Mr. R. OLVER.
All seats free. Strangers welcomed.

NORTHCOTE CHURCH of CHRIST, Rechabite Hall, Westbourne Grove.

Sunday Meetings:
11 a.m., Lord's Supper.
3 p.m., Bible School.
7 p.m., Gospel Service. Preacher—Mr. J. D. LANG.
All Seats Free. No Collection. All welcome.

NORTHCOTE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

Sunday Services:
Rev. J. C. HARRIS (N.S.W.), morning and evening.

PRINCE OF WALES' PARK METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday Services:
Morning, Mr. A. JENKIN.
Evening, Rev. T. ALDAY.
All Seats Free. Strangers Welcomed.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PRESTON.

Services will be held every Sabbath Evening, at 7 o'clock, in Messrs Nicol and Miller's Rooms, Tram Terminus. Rev. G. CARSON, Preacher.
Presbyterian families and all attached to no Church welcomed.

ST. [illegible] PRESTON METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday Services:
Morning, Rev. L. S. MACDOUGALL.
Evening, Mr. W. THORPE.
Bright Singing. All welcome.

Announcements.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

Membrey & Deane
(J. G. MEMBREY—J. V. DEANE),
Estate, Financial & Insurance Agents,
SWORN VALUER
(Telephone No. 4682, Central),
Beg to notify that their business has been REMOVED to more COMMODIOUS OFFICES on the ground floor of LOMBARD BUILDINGS, No. 17 QUEEN ST. (between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane.

Loans Negotiated Promptly.
Auctions Arranged.
Fire and Life Insurances Effected.

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 Manchester Fire [illegible]

NORTHCOTE & PRESTON AUCTION and ESTATE AGENCY.

Gordon Garrett & Co.,
583-585 HIGH ST.,
UPPER NORTHCOTE.
Near Thornbury station.

Insurances Effected. Loans Negotiated.
Rents Collected. Valuations Made.
Auction Sales Conducted any district.
Plans & specifications of houses prepared.

Notices

Cricket Materials
for Season 1909 10.

To Secretaries of Local Cricket Clubs and Schools.

We are prepared to supply any Cricket Material you may require at
TOWN PRICES.
BATS from 10d to 25/.
A Splendid Lot to choose from.
BALLS—Compo. from 6d to 2/6.
" Leather—Duke's from 8/6.
" Sheerip's, 7/6.
WICKETS, PADS, GLOVES.
Matting and Nets supplied to order.
Bats Bound and Repaired.
Tennis Rackets Re-Strung, &c.
A TRIAL SOLICITED.

T. THOMSON,
NEWS AGENT, &c.,
HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE
(opposite Savings Bank).

NUNAN, COLLINS, & CO.,

Furniture, Carpets, Linoleums, &c.,

212 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.

And 300-2 Bridge Rd., Richmond.

CASH OR EASY TERMS.

VERANDAH BLINDS, best quality, all complete.

3 x 6—White, 1/-	Green, 1/9
4 x 8—White, 2/3	Green, 3/-
6 x 8—White, 3/3	Green, 5/-
8 x 8—White, 4/3	Green, 7/-
10 x 8—White, 5/3	Green, 8/-
12 x 8—White, 7/-	Green, 9/9

Special Bargains in Millinery & Corsets
FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

GREAT REDUCTIONS
in Trimmed Hats.
Holiday Hats, trimmed, from 3/11
Untrimmed Hats, newest shapes, from 1/11.
Children's from 1/-
All leading makes in CORSETS kept in stock from 2/11.
Ribbon Corsets from 1/6.
Short makes from 1/11.

MRS. HOLLAND,
118, 120, 122 Smith Street,
COLLINGWOOD.

W. ANGLISS & CO.,

Family Butchers,

HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.

We invite the housekeepers of the district to inspect our Lovely Show of Meat at Great Reductions in prices.

Mutton from 1½d lb.
Roast Beef from 2d lb.
Corn Beef from 2d lb.
Sausages, 2½d lb.
Mince, 2d lb.

All other Prime Joints Equally Reduced.

TRY OUR SMALL GOODS.

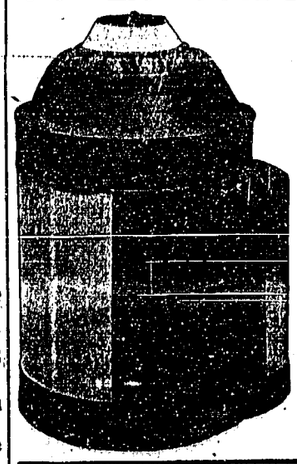
THEY ARE THE BEST.

One Visit to our Shop will convince you that ours is the BEST and CHEAPEST MEAT in the district.

Thanking you for past favors and soliciting a further continuance of your esteemed patronage.

W. ANGLISS & Co.,
High St., Northcote.

T. E. REDMOND



Ironmonger,
Crockery, Oil and Color Merchant,
410 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE

Hanging Meat Safes.
Square and Round.
One Quality—THE BEST.
4/6, 5/6, 6/6, 7/11, 9 6, 9/11 & 10/11.
KEROSENE STOVES,
3/6, 4/11, 16/, 24/, &c.
Water Cans (Galvd), 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, to any window, 2/11
Best Wire Doors, 8/6, 8/11, & 10/11.
Fly Wire, Green & Galvanised, cheap
½ inch Hose, 6d per foot.
A large shipment of English Cutlery to hand from noted Sheffield makers. Dessert and Table Knives from 5/6 half doz; Carvers, 3/11, 5/11, 8/11 and 9/11 pair; Scissors, Butchers' & Pocket Knives, Table, Tea and Dessert Spoons and Forks. All my goods are the best quality and will be satisfactory to users.
Telephone 312 (Brunswick).

JUST WHAT'S WANTED.
LARGE BRICK STORE
for
STORING FURNITURE and PIANOS, any quantity.
Apply H. KNIGHT, Furniture Remover, 256 High St., Northcote.

MRS FALLON
(late of Preston Arms Hotel),
WILL be pleased to see old friends and new at her
REFRESHMENT ROOMS,
210 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.
Tea, Coffee, &c., at all hours.

Frost's Livery Stables,
70 MANSFIELD ST., NORTHCOTE.
Fore Hire—Drags and Waggonettes.
Weddings and Parties catered for.
TERMS REASONABLE.

COOPERS,
HIGH STREET, PRESTON,
for
ICE CREAM, SUMMER DRINKS, and CONFECTIONERY.

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: At George's Agency, High St., where Mr. Wilkinson will attend Tuesdays and Fridays from 8.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.

J. L. CLARKE, LL.B.,
BARRISTER and
SOLICITOR,
Atlas Buildings, 406 Collins Street Melbourne.
Private address: 77 Roberts St., Northcote.

JOHN PHILLIPS, M.R.V.S.,
VETERINARY SURGEON
and
EQUINE DENTIST,
92 EARSY ST., COLLINGWOOD.
Open to call at any hour of night or day.

Local Government.

TOWN OF NORTHCOTE.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Notice is hereby given that at a meeting of the Council of the Town of Northcote, to be held in the Council Chambers, Municipal Offices, High Street, Northcote, on Monday, the 17th day of January, 1910, at 7.30 p.m., the Annual Statement, showing the financial position of the municipality to the end of September, 1909, duly audited and certified to, will be produced, and, if found just and true, finally examined, settled, and allowed.

Such financial statement is printed and will lie at this office for the inspection of parties interested, during office hours.

By order,
W. G. SWIFT,
Town Clerk.
Municipal Offices,
High-Street, Northcote,
24th December, 1909.

SHIRE OF PRESTON.

Special Order, Monday, 13th December, 1909, agreeing to and adopting Regulation No. 15, amending regulation No. 14 relating to Building Regulations:—That is to say:—General purport:—The words "one thousand (1000) square feet at least" in Clause 5 of Regulation are hereby repealed and the following words are to be read in lieu thereof:—"five hundred (500) square feet at least in cases where the building or erection consists of less than four rooms and six hundred (600) square feet at least in cases where the building or erection consists of four (4) or more rooms."

The Council of the Shire of Preston will meet on Monday, 10th January, 1910, at 7 p.m., at the Shire Hall, for the purpose of confirming the resolution agreeing to and adopting the said proposed Regulation, copies of which are deposited at the office of the Council, High Street, Preston, and are there open for the inspection of any person at all reasonable times.

T. J. WITHRINGTON,
Shire Secretary.
Shire Offices, Preston,
18th December, 1909.

MELBOURNE NORTH PROVINCE.
NORTHCOTE DIVISION.

The General Lists for the above Division are now printed, and copies may be inspected, free of charge, until the day appointed for revision, at my office, at the Post Office within the Division.

(Signed),
F. W. BRAIDING,
Registrar at Northcote.
24th December, 1909.

Dress and Fashion.

Miss BRETT,
Ladies' Draper,
289 HIGH ST.,
NORTHCOTE,
For Good Value
and
Newest Styles
at
Lowest Prices.

Useful & Suitable
New Year Presents.

Inspection invited.

NOTICE.

"The Leader"
will
Not be Published
on
Saturday Next
(New Year's Day).

The Leader
JUSTICE TO ALL.
Published Every Saturday Morning.
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25.

ONCE more in the round of human experience the day of the year most prized amongst Christian peoples and nations is upon us. We are prone to forget, naturally, in the ordinary duties of our several spheres, the great privilege we enjoy in having this annual period in which to contemplate the past, make resolves for the future, and, more particulary, to unite those that are close more closely, foregather those from distant parts, either in reality or in spirit, to forgive past differences, and to practice that peace and good will which the season so truly and so beautifully symbolises. The anniversary of the foundation of Christianity does all this, because in that religion stands permanently, the symbol of hope for the future, and for love and liberty in this life. Ostentatious emperors and rulers of great and powerful nations have disappeared from the stage of human action, their memories almost forgotten, and their deeds lost to view before the efflorescent light of Christianity, which had its origin in the birth of the Babe of Bethlehem 1900 years ago. The advent of this divine personality, under the most humble circumstances, marked a new era in civilisation and human conduct. The significance of the coming of this Great Founder of a new dynasty is more than the theme for pulpit discourse. It is the deepest and profoundest influence today in the world, not only as a religious force, but in the national and individual life of the greatest peoples in the world. Yet this greatest of all men to-day in the thoughts, the hearts, and the sentiments of the world's leading nations, appeared before the people without learning, in the rank of a village carpenter. He checked all political excitement, dictated that respect should be paid to all rulers. His followers were "unlearned and ignorant men" chosen from the humblest of the people, yet He has as a simple matter of fact, "changed the whole course of history." Our time now dates from His birth. He closed all the history of the past and inaugurated all the history of the future, and "all the most civilised and brilliant nations of the world worship Him as a God." This, truly, is a supernatural triumph of an enduring love, purity, and humility over the temporary and destroying victories of human might and the sword.

A contemplation of our Christian privileges should not only make us more receptive and appreciative of our advantages, and engender in us a keen sense of our duty to one another, but should fit us for the merriments, the commingling of hearts, the vindication of those talents which were given us to use. There can be only one way to celebrate such an occasion, and that example has already been given us from old England for many centuries. We may not indulge in the roast oxen and the yule log, but we can have our roast beef, our goose, and like Bob Crachit, our turkey. We have something better than the severe snows of Old England, for we have the sunny skies of Australia. The weather may not be so suitable to the disposal of the pudding, but we have it all the same. It is tribute to the deeply-seated impression which the Christmas of centuries has developed that nearly all the charming atmosphere of sentiment has been imported with our parents and remains with us, notwithstanding the aforesaid climatic differences. We learn from the lesson of peace and good will which Christmas alone can convey that the great advances in knowledge, commercial and territorial achievement, might only make nations stronger and wiser in following the golden rule that points the pathway of duty. Our local blessings have never been richer or more bountiful. This increases the responsibility of our trust toward those more needy but equally deserving. We do well to ponder, never too often,

"That if happiness has not her seat and centre in the breast,
We may be wise, or rich, or great, but never can be blest.
And that
The heart, aye, is the part, aye,
That makes us right or wrong."

Your Holiday Hat

Why not a soft, Lounge Felt? The comfort, the coolness, and the dressy effect they impart make them the ideal hats for summer wear.

Get one for the holidays—it will do you for Christmas, and afterwards. We have them in Greens, Drabs, Grays, and Browns. Look in and try one on.

Wardrop's Corner,
SMITH STREET, COLLINGWOOD.

At the meeting of the Northcote town council on Monday evening Cr. Robb called attention to three samples taken by their inspector from the Merri Creek. The clear one was taken from above where Bullen's drain entered it, the medium one from below where it entered, and the dark one from Bullen's drain itself. If there was any "doubting Thomases" as to the kind of stuff which flowed down Bullen's drain they need only remove the cork from this bottle. (Laughter). He wondered how the people were so quiet in the neighborhood of Bullen's drain, as the stench arising from it was unbearable.

At a social gathering at the Northcote Methodist Church school hall, Mrs. W. Cox, as president of the Girls' Friendly Society, handed over to the trustees (Messrs Little and Gray) the sum of £80, the proceeds of the recent "Barrow Fair" organised by the society, with the co-operation of the Bachelors' class and the Brotherhood. The amount was given and accepted as portion of the contribution promised by the Sunday School towards the new buildings. Altogether the G.F.S. has raised something like £100 for one branch of church work and another. The trustees, in accepting the present gift, eulogised greatly the energy and practical sympathy of the girls and their colleagues.

THE TRAMS.

DISCUSSION IN THE COUNCIL.

The tramway committee reported to the town council regarding [illegible] gress reports have been made by the engineer as to the repair of the track and renovation of cars and dummies; also that the lessees have arranged for the supply of a new cable to be delivered about March next. Instructions have been given to the engineer to attend to the above matters of repair.

Cr. Plant said he would like to know if the committee thought the present cable could be used till March next with satisfactory results to the public. He was given to understand it was in a pretty bad condition; and he must say the track was in the most disgrace ful condition he had ever seen it.

Cr. Williams (chairman of the committee) said that the committee felt that the repairs to the track were not proceeding as rapidly as they ought. He had urged the engineer to insist on the repairs being done before tarring was commenced. The lessee had stated to the engineer that he proposed deferring the tarring till March, which he (Cr. Williams) considered was entirely unsatisfactory, and told the engineer to get it done by the end of next month at the latest.

Cr. Mitchell—If our engineer is not a judge of what ought to be done he is no use to us. The M. T. & O. Co. have already commenced their tarring. The roadway was in a disgraceful state, and the lessee is certainly not doing all he should do. The engineer was not keeping him up to the mark.

Cr. Bastings said it was time they insisted on the conditions of the lease being carried out in the interest of the ratepayers. The property may not have been in good order when the lease was entered into, but the lessees had inspected it and knew exactly what they were taking over. Now the track was in a deplorable condition, and you could not go down the street without hearing complaints about it and of accidents occurring on it. They should force the hands of the engineer in seeing that the conditions of the lease were carried out.

Cr. Plant said that when the engineer was asked if the conditions of the lease were being carried out he said "not in every case." Wherever they were not carried out he should report to the council and they would see that they were carried out. It was no use tarring the road till the blocks were brought up to the rails.

Cr. Tharratt—The cars and dummies have not been varnished yet and the lease says they should be done every 12 months; and as has been stated the track is in a deplorable condition. If the engineer can't get these things done he should report to the committee.

Cr. Williams—We are insisting that our engineer shall have the repairs carried out to his thorough satisfaction.

AT LAST.

NORTHCOTE TELEPHONE EXCHANGE TO BE ESTABLISHED WITHIN THREE MONTHS.

The mayor (Cr. Hayes) has had an interview with an officer of the Postal Department, who informed him that the long-waited-for and very much-needed Northcote Telephone Exchange will be established within three months.

It will be a metallic circuit, which is the most up-to-date system, doing away with the annoyance of hearing scraps of half a dozen other conversations while you are endeavouring to conduct your own.

Provision will be made for 250 subscribers for a start, and the cable is to be laid to High street, Preston.

All present subscribers in Northcote, Preston, or Fairfield, or intending subscribers in these districts are requested to notify the town clerk, Northcote, at once, in order that the requirements may be properly gauged.

Northcote Independent Presbyterian Church

Something over a decade ago a section of the people—for the most part Presbyterians—combined together and formed what has since been known as the Northcote Independent Presbyterian Church, with the Rev. Hector Ferguson as its minister. To do this a special authority was obtained from the Government. Ever since religious services have been conducted every Sabbath morning and evening in the town-hall, Sunday School has been conducted, and other church organisations helpful to the young people have been in existence and doing good work.

Through the regrettable death of the Rev. Mr. Ferguson, a largely attended meeting of the members of the congregation was held last Monday night in the Campbell grove hall to consider the best course to pursue, under the altered circumstances, in the future.

Previous to the general meeting of the congregation the committee of management met and considered the position, and after deliberating for some time resolved to allow the congregation a free hand.

At the request of all present Mr. R. J. Whalley presided. He referred to the lamented death of their late minister in sympathetic and regretful terms; and in introducing the business of the evening briefly reviewed the history of the Independent Presbyterian Church, the trials which it encountered and the prejudices which existed. They were assembled to discharge a grave responsibility, for they would be called upon to determine whether they would continue the work of the church as they had been doing for the last 10 years, or whether it would be advisable to make other arrangements. The church was fully established; but now that it had lost its minister and founder it was questionable whether they would succeed in getting a suitable successor and one who would be successful in the arduous task ahead. It was, however, for the meeting to determine, and he would welcome a free expression of the views they might hold.

A calm and thoughtful discussion followed, in which a great many of the ladies and gentlemen took part. The tone of the remarks of the majority of the speakers seemed to indicate that it would be unwise—under such vastly different conditions—to attempt to carry on the church, and it was resolved almost unanimously that the denomination be dissolved and that the Registrar be duly notified of the decision of the congregation. It was agreed that a service be held on Sunday evenings in the Campbell grove hall for three months, and that the senior classes of the school meet in the same place. The secretaries of the Church, Sunday School, and Young Men's Society reported having credit balances, also that there were no accounts outstanding. Trustees were appointed to take charge of the property of the congregation, and before the meeting terminated the secretary was instructed on behalf of those assembled to write a letter of condolence to Mrs. Ferguson in her hour of sorrow. In many other ways members showed their practical sympathy in a most generous manner. Thus ended a very harmonious and unanimous meeting, tinged naturally with deep disappointment and regret.

Localisms.

To Readers—The Northcote Public Library will be closed on the following dates:—December 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th; January 1st, 2nd, 3rd.

Mr. E. L. Wilcox has completed the audit of the Northcote town accounts for the past year and reports the "books and accounts in excellent order."

Special programme of living pictures is announced for Christmas night at the Northcote park.

The worst bit of news locally is that The Northcote Brick Co. has closed down consequent upon the coal strike, stopping the circulation of £500 weekly in wages.

Mr. D. H. Herald, solicitor to the Northcote town council, informed the council on Monday evening that in the matter of the registration of the Croxton recreation ground Mr. Randall was appealing to the High Court of Australia, and the case would be heard in February.

The Postal Department wrote to the Northcote town council on Monday evening (through Mr. Hume Cook, M.P.) intimating that the request for a mid-day delivery was being enquired into; also stating that in response to Mr. Cook's strong personal representations a letter pillar would be placed in St. George's road at the corner of Clarke street, and cleared twice daily, namely, at 10 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.

Cr. Bastings on Monday evening moved that Mr. Membrey, M.L.A., be asked to endeavour to get a subway constructed in connection with the erection of the new station at Northcote. A subway certainly would be a very great convenience at this station, as at present those wishing to go to the "down" side can only reach it by walking a long distance, and at the same time by crossing the line.

A bag of sweets will be given to every boy and girl visiting the Northcote park on Christmas night.

The meeting to finally examine, settle, and allow Northcote audited statement of accounts, will be held on Monday, 17th January.

On New Year's night the Northcote Football Club give a monster concert and bioscope entertainment at the Croxton recreation ground.

Hattam's great bargain sale will be continued next week.

A Northcote resident, Mr. E. Ripper, of 6 Martin street, has just built for Richardson's Cafe, City, a self-playing pipe organ, with pneumatic action, to take the place of an orchestra, which cost the firm £6 6s a week. This organ is the first of its kind built in Australia and aswers its purpose admirably.

A cutting from the *Portland Observer* forwarded to us shows that the hand of Arthur O'Leary, late a prominent member of the Northcote Cricket Club, has not lost its cunning as a bowler. Playing for Portland against Tyrendarra he swept the opposing wickets down like ninepins, getting the following extraordinary averages:—First innings, 7 for 11; second innings, 7 for 6. There was not a double figure score in either innings. Eleven of the ex-Northcotelite's 14 wickets were clean bowled.

Bioscope entertainments, under the auspices of the Northcote South Ratepayers' Association, continue to prove a great attraction. Last Saturday night one of the largest crowds for the season assembled. To night a record attendance is expected.

Many of the local shop windows have been splendidly got up for the Christmas trade and would be hard to beat anywhere. The measure of patronage extended to all seems to fully justify their enterprise.

Some little hitches in connection with the purchase of the Carnegie library site have now been fixed up and the contract of sale has been signed. Immediately after the holidays the designs for the library building will be considered and the one approved forwarded to Mr. Carnegie for his endorsement.

At a largely attended meeting of the congregation of the Preston Presbyterian Church on Monday evening a unanimous vote of confidence was expressed in the Rev. George Carson and a request made that he withdraw his resignation. The reason for his action having disappeared Mr. Carson has complied with the congregation's request and will continue to minister in his old charge.

W. J. Ogden, hairdresser and tobacconist, 327 High street, Northcote, in our advertising columns to-day pictorially presents his business establishment and solicits a share of public patronage.

THE DUST NUISANCE.

The town clerk, Melbourne, wrote to the Northcote town council on Monday evening forwarding report of committee re dust nuisance.

Cr. Robb, who had attended the conference, said it was evident from the report that the matter had been gone deeply into. The scheme recommended, that is to cover the roads with tar Macadam, was, however, far beyond Northcote, who had not one street fit to receive it, as it could not be attempted even in High street till such time as the channels were lifted. At the conference they spoke of financing the scheme by putting an extra 1d on the rate, but while this might be all very well for city property-owners, where the rate was 2s 8d and really should be 2s 6d. He would move, however, that the matter be referred to the committee of the whole.

Cr. Smith seconded the motion, though he thought they might just as well expect the millennium as a stoppage of the dust nuisance.

Cr. Plant said till uniform action was taken all efforts would be useless. What would be the use of Northcote, for instance, taking steps if Preston, Epping and Whittlesea did nothing?

The mayor said he thought they might make a start at least by filling up any holes in the road with tarred Macadam. It was acting very well where used near the tramtrack and there was no dust from it.

Cr. Tharratt said the evil could be minimised by the use of the water carts; and the more houses that were built the less would be the dust.

Cr. Dennis said it would pay the council well to use tarred Macadam for maintenance. At present the road was watered, then swept, resulting in the best part of the road being swept away, which would not be the case if they had a proper surface.

The motion was carried.

NORTHCOTE FOOTBALL CLUB.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LEADER.

SIR—It affords me great pleasure to notify that the committee and ground management have come to a satisfactory arrangement with the Victorian Football Association whereby the Northcote Football Club will still be able to continue their matches on the Croxton recreation reserve during their term of tenure. The Association, together with the other clubs, realising the hardship imposed on the club by the non registration, have unanimously agreed to assist in every way the general welfare of the club, which in the future will take up a collection at the gates, and we feel sure that the general public will give their hearty support to them as in the past. It is very gratifying to me to have to inform you of our successful negotiations with the Association, and also to be able to state that the season just passed ended in a financial success, all accounts having been paid, leaving a balance in hand. I feel sure that in the coming season we will have the hearty support and assistance of all well-wishers. In conclusion, my committee desire me to express their thanks to the proprietors of the *Leader* for their past kindness in giving prominence to the doings of the club, and to wish all supporters and residents the compliments of the season. Thanking you all for past favors, and hoping for a continuance of same in the future.—Yours, &c.,
ARTHUR HOTTON, Hon. Sec.
Croxton Park, Dec. 23rd, 1909.

PIC-NIC AT YAN YEAN.

That always-popular event, the annual public picnic at the Yan Yean reservoir on Year's Day, takes place on Saturday next. Substantial prizes are offered for all sorts of fancy dancing (boys and girls under 16, who must dance in costume), and there will be in addition, footracing, throwing cricket ball, swings, Punch & Judy, merry-go-round, and other amusements, not forgetting an efficient brass band. Special trains will be running at holiday excursion fares. The proceeds will as usual be devoted to charitable purposes.

Christmas Festivities.

Following the generous example of their predecessors the mayor and mayoress of Northcote (Cr. and Mrs. W. Hayes) gave a Christmas entertainment to the children of the town at the Northcote Park on Thursday evening. Notwithstanding the many counter attractions there was a great attendance, and what with bioscope pictures, band music and distribution of sweets, the juveniles were given a very happy time and went home thinking of their entertainers as a sort of second Santa Claus.

Northcote branch A.N.A. held their second annual Xmas Tree entertainment on Thursday evening at the local town hall, which was crowded with members and their wives and children come to share in the benefactions of good old Santa Claus, who was in his most generous mood, giving to every child present some little gift, and, needless to say, sending them home delighted. Apart from the presence and goodness of Father Xmas those present were excellently entertained by the pupils of Miss McNab, of Fairfield, and Miss Roberts, of Northcote. There were some fine exhibitions of club swinging and dumbells, and also a most interesting and novel display with flags, the pupils of Miss Roberts also favoring with some capital elocutionary numbers. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the ladies mentioned on the motion of Messrs R. Gardiner and Rouvray.

The Gwalia lodge U.A.O.D. annual Xmas entertainment for members' children was held in the lodge-room on Saturday evening, and, as usual, passed off very successfully. The first part of the evening was devoted to a programme of songs, fancy dances, &c., after which refreshments were served. Father Xmas was then announced and each child received direct from his hands a suitable present from the well-stocked Christmas tree.

The Pender's Grove Settlers' Xmas festival, held in the Kimberley hall on Saturday last, proved a most enjoyable affair to the large crowd of old and young who attended. Amongst the visitors were Mr. Membrey, M.L.A., and Mrs. Membrey, the mayor and mayoress (Cr. and Mrs. Hayes), and several other prominent people of Northcote.

Soon after 6 o'clock the president of the Settlers' Association (R. H. Nelson) called on the mayoress to open the proceedings, which Mrs. Hayes did in a neat and appropriate little speech, stating that it gave her great pleasure to be of any service to them and hoped everyone would thoroughly enjoy themselves. Little Muriel Duffield then presented the mayoress with a pretty basket of flowers.

Mr. Membrey congratulated the association on holding such a gathering, and also upon the objects of the association, one of which, he understood, was, in time of sickness or unemployment, to help one another. He did not know of any worthier object. He also referred to the conditions of the working class in different parts of England, where hundreds of families were living on the dole, out of land, which he believed was the cause of untold misery and crime. He was pleased to notice that the settlers appreciated the work of the Government, through which they had been enabled to make a start to get homes of their own on very easy terms. The speaker then urged on the young people on the estate to improve their minds with useful knowledge in order to better their position in life, for they had advantages which children of 20 and 40 years ago never had. Mr. Membrey's remarks were greeted with hearty applause.

A splendid programme followed, consisting of fancy dancing, singing, instrumental selections, club swinging, &c., in which valuable assistance was rendered by Mrs. Earl, Madame Garade, Misses Davis, Miller, Finley, Emmett, Hansen, Millie Johnson and her clever pupils, also Messrs Hawke, Nelson, Brothers, Will Davies and Richmond Brothers. Every item was well received.

The children's greatest delight was when Father Christmas appeared on the scene with his tree stacked with good things for the little folks and it was a treat to watch the children's pleasure as each one received their prizes from the hands of "Dear Old Daddy Christmas," their happiness was complete.

Refreshments on a very liberal scale were provided for everyone, after which a [illegible] of dances were indulged in.

The mayor thanked the settlers on behalf of himself and the mayoress and the other visitors for the splendid way they had been entertained, and was pleased that the settlers first gathering was so successful. He wished them a Merry Merry Xmas and a Prosperous New Year, and heartily congratulated the officers and committee on the result of their labours.

The secretary (F. Duffield) said it gave the officers and committee and also the ladies the greatest pleasure to know that their efforts to provide an enjoyable evening, and he hoped that this would be the first of many more such gatherings.

The singing of "Auld Lang Syne" by everyone in the hall closed a very happy gathering.

PRESTON METHODIST S.S.

A very interesting event took place in the schoolroom on Tuesday evening, the junior endeavour society, through their leader (Mrs. Mather) invited the members of the Sunday School to a tea. At the appointed time, 5.45, 140 boys and girls sat down to a sumptuous tea and did it justice. Tea being over the Rev. Macdougall entertained the juniors with games till time for the evening meeting. In this a number of the friends had been making special arrangements in clothing a fine tree with a large number of useful articles suitable for the various recipients. In quick time the hall was packed with young and old all eager to make the best of the Xmas Tree. The superintendent occupied the chair, and the following programme was rendered:—Overture, "The Robins," Miss Westmoreland; recitation, "Hang up the baby's stocking," seven girls; recitation, "Christmas comes to all," eight boys; duet, "Waves of the ocean," Misses Worthington and Moseley; recitation, "Note to Santa Claus," Henry Harvey; recitation, "Kiss in school, Miss Edna Ashton; recitation, "The break down," Miss and Master Perrin; Christmas bells, Mrs. O. Callender; duet, "What are the wild waves saying," Misses G. Truman and Moseley. The young people did their work most satisfactorily. Father Christmas made his appearance with wonderful skill. The tree was well filled and lit up with fairy lamps, and the boys and girls received their gifts, from the cradle roll to the higher classes. The mottoes prepared by the young people showed care and skill. "Our School Xmas, 1909," was sown and grown in a frame work. Mr. Perrin proposed a special vote of thanks to Mrs. Mather, Misses Moseley, Young, Oliver, and others, which terminated one of the most pleasant treats in connection with the Sunday School.

HIGH STREET BUILDINGS OBJECTED TO.

At the meeting of the Northcote town council on Monday evening Cr. Tharratt again enquired as to what progress was being made with the building regulations. Whilst they were kept in abeyance buildings were being erected that were a disgrace to the town.

Cr. Robb said some buildings were going up in High street that would be a disgrace to any back block township and the engineer should be authorised to stop their continuation. The joists are right down on the earth. He moved that the engineer inspect and report, and, if necessary, stop the work.

Cr. Woolhouse seconded.—Carried.

The Hat King,
Thomas Trevena,
THE RELIABLE
LADIES' & GENTLEMEN'S TAILOR.

OUR SUITS and COSTUMES are Good in Material, Good in Workmanship, Classy in Cut, MODERATE in PRICE.

TREVENA'S Suits and Costumes are preferred by hundreds whose preference is based on
KNOWLEDGE!
We've all the Very Latest in New Season's Material.
Ring up 410 City, or write for Samples to the old-established firm,
266 SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD.

In Memoriam Service

THE LATE REV. HECTOR FERGUSON.

AN APPRECIATION.

The untimely and much-lamented death of the Rev. Hector Ferguson, minister and founder of the Northcote Independent Presbyterian Church, was the occasion of a most impressive In Memoriam service last Sunday night, and so deep and general was the regret that the town hall was crowded. There was a chord of sympathy in the large congregation that connected all hearts and abundant evidence of heartfelt sorrow. The pulpit was draped in white and the beautiful and appropriate hymns as rendered by the children's choir, the church choir, and the congregation, together with the sympathetic prayers of the preacher, were in complete harmony with the service. The pulpit was occupied by Mr. W. P. Sinclair, a member of the congregation. He said:—"You are gathered here to night to show your love for one whom you knew well. You are full of love and sympathy for him, and I think you can best show that love by engaging for a few moments in silent prayer, and send to to the widow and fatherless that strength which they require. Ask our Divine Father to let His peace rest upon them and it will come to them."
(Silent Prayer).

After reading a few verses from the second chapter of Luke, foretelling the birth of our Saviour, Mr. Sinclair continued—"I think it will take very little thought to connect that great event which took place 1900 years ago with the event which took place so recently in our midst. There was born into this world One who was to change the whole attitude of thought. One who [illegible] He came [illegible] He might raise mankind to a higher state—that He might become an everlasting inspiration and an everlasting strength to mankind. Is it not a fitting time, then, when that great soul, that warrior of God, who stood here so long, should join the heavenly host? He was the incarnation of the Christ and lives now more than ever he did before, for he is born at this Christmastide into a land of light and liberty where there is no shadow over his spirit. We grieve. That is only right and natural. It is nature's method of relieving the tremendous strain which comes upon us. If our spiritual eyes were opened we would see beyond our present senses and thank God for the sweet Messenger of Death who leads us into a glorious realisation of all we ever hoped for. There is no death—it is but a change. We have laid our brother's mortal remains in the grave. There let them lie—let them lie—drop no tear upon them. The body was but the instrument through which he did all he has done for you. Do not weep. Our friend is living in a body infinitely more beautiful, infinitely more sweet, better than even he dreamt of. Let us try and realise that the Angel of Death, which is looked upon with such terror, is God's brightest angel of joy. "God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform," and has taken our friend in the fulness of his power away, and God's purposes will be fulfilled even to the uttermost. Anywhere? Are we not surrounded by mysteries? Is not our very existence the greatest of all mysteries? But what seems to us the greatest loss is but a part of our Heavenly Father's great plan—the progress of mankind. The events of our friend's life were not many, because, after all, *the* event of all our lives is when we turn to God and Truth & strive for spiritual progress. To young men our departed minister was a noble example. In his determination to reach his goal he overcame many difficulties. Do not think, as you read in the paper, that he stepped from school to college so easily. He was not a child of fortune, but by his own exertions he was able to pursue his studies which later on fitted him for his first charge—for his work at Chalmer's church, and for his work here. He was loved and reverenced, and his great abilities, his eloquence, and his tender sympathy gathered round him the large church which is flourishing to-day, but his great heart could not know the truth and conceal it. He taught what he knew to be the Truth and he had to go out from amongst them. Do we realise what that really meant? It meant giving up that which he most cherished from his youth up—his church—the loss of scholarly companions, colleagues, and friends. What an [illegible] of a man of tender sympathy. Think of [illegible] ister: solitariness and loneliness of such a sacrifice. He offered up his own life and all that was so dear to him that he might teach God's Truth. The stru

KING'S COLLEGE.

The annual distribution of prizes in connection with King's College, Clifton Hill, was held at the Collingwood town hall on Friday evening, 17th, in the presence of a large attendance of parents and friends. Senator Robert Best presided.

The principal, Mr. G. Cochrane, B.A., F.C.D., read the annual report, which gave interesting facts in connection with the administration of the school and as to the progress of various pupils. Special comment was made on the excellent health of the school, there not having been a single case of infectious disease amongst the pupils, seven of whom were getting attendance prizes, which meant that they had not been absent for a single day. This satisfactory feature was attributed to the healthful location of the college and its large well ventilated class rooms.

Senator Best, prior to presenting the prizes, said it had been his pleasure to preside at the annual speech night on very many occasions. He was much interested in the school because of many associations such as the attendance of members of his own family. It was gratifying to learn that the year had been one of steady progress, as was shown by the annual report, and he desired to congratulate both principal and pupils. He trusted there would be that appreciation and patronage of the college on the part of parents in Clifton Hill and the neighboring districts as would justify the inclusion of a well-equipped science laboratory, which should be a prominent feature of all secondary schools. He need hardly remind them that the application of science to industry was completely transforming old conditions, and the only hope to succeed in these days lay in being well skilled in all directions. Nations were now realising that perfect education was the only insurance so far as the future was concerned. They had a magnificent primary system, limited technical schools, and the University, but between them there was a big space which could only be filled by secondary schools of high standing. He hoped to see the success of King's College greatly multiplied and that it would take a still higher place amongst the secondary schools, which would only be possible with the zealous and able assistance of all the people in the neighbouring community. Teaching was now regarded as one of the highest professions, and he was sure they had in Mr. Cochrane an patriotic principal with a skilled staff. Senator Best then presented the prizes, of which there was a splendid collection. The dux prize went to H. B Jenkin, who also carried off the cup as athletic champion, so that the college has in this pupil one who bids fair to be a Rhodes scholar.

In token of their appreciation and good will towards them the boys made presentations to both the principal (Mr. G. Cochrane) and the vice-principal (Mr. T. Cochrane).

A capital programme of music, elocution and physical exercises was given by the pupils. The choruses given under the direction of Mr. A. J. Pallett went admirably, "Funiculi Funicula" and "The Laughing Song" being specially popular. S. Cherry arrested attention with his dramatic recital of "Lasca." He is a reciter that will be heard of, for he has real insight and a good voice to give it expression. For encore, which the audience would not be denied, he gave "The Amateur Rider." Master C. Binks also recited in highly intelligent fashion and Master C. Mathews played a violin solo, the entertainment concluding at the reasonable hour of 10 with the National Anthem.

PRIZE LIST.

Junior public form.—Dux of school, H. B. Jenkins; proxime accessit, A. F. Matthews; mathematics (special), K. Inglis; attendance, K. Inglis and A. F. Matthews; monthly marks, A. F. Matthews.

Sub junior public form.—Dux, N. A. Rollason; proxime accessit, K. H. MacCallum; French (special), S. Casey; attendance, S. Casey; Scripture, N. A. Rollason 1, K. H. MacCallum 2; mapping, L. Lang; monthly marks, N. A. Rollason.

Pharmacy.—Latin, V. Montgomery.

IV. (upper).—Dux, C. Whitcher; proxime accessit, S. Baddeley; Latin and French, C. Whitcher 1, E. Beveridge and S. Baddeley 2; English subjects, S Baddeley 1, C. Whitcher 2; mathematics, C. Whitcher 1, S. Baddeley 2; arithmetic, E. Brooks 1, C. Binks 2; writing, J. Fortune and R. Welsh 1, C. Matthews 2; attendance, W. Clayton, C. Whitcher, F. E. Blacker; mapping, E. Brooks, B. Llewellyn; monthly marks, C. Whitcher; essays, S. Cherry, C. C. Whitcher; Scripture, J. Fortune; singing, C. Binks; drawing, J. Fortune. Special prizes.—Most popular boy of form, C. Whitcher; mathematics, H. Matthews, E. Brooks; Algebra and Latin, B. Llewellyn; neatness, J. Fortune; English subjects, H. Matthews.

IV (lower).—Dux, J. Fortune; proxime accessit, F. Blacker; Latin and French, J. Fortune 1, F. Blacker 2; mathematics, J. Fortune 1, F. Blacker 2; English subjects, J. Fortune 1, W. Clayton 2 Special prizes.—Latin and French, R. Welsh; mathematics, W. Clayton, B. Merchant, R. Weir.

III.—Dux, J Blacker; proxime accessit, A. Dance; Latin and French, J. Blacker 1, A. Dance 2; English group, J. Blacker 1, W. Warden 2; mathematics, A. Dance 1, J. Blacker 2; monthly marks, A. MacGregor. Special prizes.—Latin and French, W. Warden, H. Reilly, A. MacGregor; English group, A. Williams; mathematics, W. Warden; writing, J. Blacker 1, H. Barnes and A. Williams 2; drawing, A. Dance; arithmetic, H. Barnes; reading, H. Reilly; writing, N. McClelland; attendance, J. Blacker, W. Warden; mapping, R. Williams; most popular boy, J. Blacker.

ALEXANDRA COLLEGE.

The 19th annual demonstration in connection with the above college passed off very successfully on Tuesday night. It was one of the best "break-ups" the college has had—an excellent programme, a crowded attendance, and a successful year's work.

Mr J. G. Membrey, M.L.A., was present & distributed the prizes & in doing so had some complimentary & encouraging words for scores of children. He also expressed his gratification at being present and congratulated the principal and his staff on the splendid results which had been achieved by the pupils during the past year, and he had a word of commendation for those scholars who had put up such magnificent records for regular attendance. It was something for a scholar to be able to say that she had not missed attending school for five years. (Applause). Mr. Membrey also referred to the greatly-improved facilities which existed to-day for acquiring knowledge and pointed out that the Government was doing all it possibly could by up-to-date methods and up-to-date schools to promote a sound educational system. The girls and boys of to-day were fortunate in having such splendid opportunities to expand their intellectual powers, and he impressed upon them how very important it was that they should make the very best use of the facilities which were offered them. (Applause.)

Mr. Membrey also, on behalf of the pupils, presented Mr. and Mrs. Farr with a Morrocco-bound Bible and an elegant silver teapot, which showed that they were held in the highest esteem, and also that their work had been approved by the scholars.

The programme was not altogether confined to the school. A trio by the Misses Farr, a trio and scouple of humorous duets by the Misses Holt, two admirably-given recitations of a most amusing character by Master Wallace Crossley, and a song by Miss Holt were the exceptions, and each number was genuinely appreciated. The action songs by the scholars, "Japanese Fan" (in character), and "The Golden Boat" were capitally rendered, whilst the action songs of the juniors also evoked considerable interest. Little Miss Blewett did remarkably well in her song, "The Gates of Dawn," and showed that she possessed a singing voice—easy and natural—of rare quality. The same young lady, in addition to favoring with a piano overture, took the principal part in the cantata, "The Doll's Wedding," of which an excellent performance was given, those taking part being as follows:—

Fairy Godmother (with attendants), Miss K. Clappison; Bride Doll, Miss D. Blewett; Bridesmaids—Misses D. Lawrence, D. Brown, L. Stalker, E. Edwards, D. Peatt, and A. Bedford. Suitors—Tinker, E. Stott; Tailor, C. Ferguson; Soldier, E. Dennis; Sailor, Miss D. Greenwood; Apothecary, E. Blewett; Ploughman, E. Johnson; Poorman, W. Stalker; Thief, A. Bedford; Policeman, C. Wittenbach.

The principal's report was very satisfactory and contained the cheerful announcement that the number of scholars was the largest since the school was established, five of whom had not missed a single attendance for the whole year.

PRIZE LIST.

Dux of school.—Wallace Ludford.

VI.—1, Ormuz Reeves, 1 at Christmas, 1 at Midwinter; 2, Kate Clappison, 2 at Christmas, 2 at Midwinter, 1 composition and arithmetic; 3, Carl Wittenbach, 3 Christmas, 3 Midwinter, 1 home lessons; Charles Belcher, Dorothy Blewett, Myrtle Donaldson, Elsie Edwards, special prizes for general improvement.

V.—1, Daphne Pratt, 1 Christmas, 1 Midwinter, 1 home lessons; 2, Lily Stalker, 2 Christmas, 2 Midwinter, 3 home lessons; 3, Charles Peatt, 3 Christmas, 2 home lessons; Cleole Ferguson, special for general improvement.

IV.—1, Frank Browne, 1 Christmas, 1 Midwinter, 2 home lessons; 2, Dorothy Greenwood, 2 Midwinter, 3 Christmas, Harry Wittenbach, 2 Christmas, 2 home lessons; 3, Doris Lawrence, 3 Christmas, 3 Midwinter, 1 home lessons; Dorothy Brown, special for general improvement.

III (upper).—1, Earl Blewett, 1 Christmas, 1 Midwinter; 2, [illegible] Pearson, 2 Christmas, 2 Midwinter, 1 home lessons; 3, Ivy Scott, 3 Christmas, 1 home lessons; Reggie Lawton, Arthur Bedford, Clifton Mackenzie, special for general improvement.

III (lower).—1, Hazel Greenwood, 1 Christmas, 1 Midwinter; 2, Beattie Stalker, 2 Christmas, 3 Midwinter, 1 home lessons; 3, Addie Bedford, 3 Christmas, 2 Midwinter, 2 home lessons; Reta Palling, special for general improvement.

II.—1, Dorothy Clack, 1 Christmas, 1 Midwinter; 2, Charles Seabrook, 2 Christmas, 3 Midwinter; 3, Grace Belcher, 3 Christmas, 2 Midwinter, Claud Peatt, 3 Christmas; Marjory Ashby, William Stalker, special for general improvement; Ernest Dennis, general improvement and indulgence.

I (upper).—Winnie Cox, 1 reading; Stanley Knowles, 1 writing; Arthur Laver, 1 arithmetic; Hector Dennis, 2 arithmetic and writing.

I (lower).—Florrie Cooper, 1 arithmetic, Rene Fry, 1 reading; Herman Lachmund, 2 arithmetic; Clifford Le Page, 1 writing.

Infant class.—Doris Court, arithmetic; Lois Crook, arithmetic: Ida Lyons, reading; Frank Laver, reading; Gordon Brown, progress; Jack Charters, writing; Angela Seabrook, progress.

Special prizes for regular attendance.—Lily Stalker (who has not been absent once in five years), William Stalker, Charles Peatt, Daphne Peatt, Ernest Stott, Doris Lawrence, Claud Peatt, half day absent; Beattie Stalker, in 1907, 1908 no absences, 1909 one day through illness.

BOWLING.

FOUR-RINK PENNANT.

Thornbury and Camberwell played last Saturday on the green of the latter.

CAMBERWELL, 134.	
1. Purvis, Linklater, Maskell, Blair ...	31
2. Willis, Cam, Short, Roberts ...	30
3. Cross, Rooks, McEacharn, Chadwick	26
4. McCleery, Brown, Baker, Wasley ...	47
THORNBURY, 76	
1. Ingham, Harry, Johnson, Glipin ...	18
2. Harris, Boyd, McEwan, Dickason ...	21
3. Adams, Workman, Stephens, Whalley	20
4. Cagle, Smith, Brown, Doran ...	10

Northcote and Princes Park played at Princes Park.

PRINCES PARK, 90.	
1. Ling, Oxlade, Jackson, H. Lacey ...	28
2. Duggan, J. Duggan, Brewer, Bennett	28
3. Grice, Trathen, Slinn, Normand ...	26
4. Lacey, Shannon, Deuchar, Hardham	14
NORTHCOTE, 70	
1. McIntosh, Bailey, Reed, [illegible]	15
2. Allan, Lawrence, Cox, [illegible] ...	14
3. Treleaven, Tribe, Taylor, Dudman...	19
4. Saunders, Brown, Hayes, Mitchell...	31

Preston v. Armadale. This match was played on the Armadale green.

ARMADALE, 149.	
1. McIlwick, jun., Lodge, Malcolm, Waxman	34
2. J. Forbes, Heyward, Locke, Robinson	38
3. Cox, D. Forbes, Stephens, McDonald	45
4. E. Robinson, Lucas, Stewart, Smith	32
PRESTON, 64	
1. Du Bourg, A. Wilkinson, Paterson, Walker	16
2. Bartley, C. Wilkinson, A. S. Wilkinson, Pike	10
3. Box, Howe, Strahle, Broadhurst ...	12
4. Robinson, Stanlake, Crispe, jun., Crispe	26

THREE RINK PENNANT.

Thornbury and Armadale played on the green of the former, Armadale winning by 92 to 48.

Preston were badly defeated by Richmond Union, who scored 115 to 39.

A close game was the outcome of the match between Northcote and Princes Park, the latter winning by 3 points—71 to 68.

SOCIETIES.

Members of the Preston branch A.W.A. met on Monday evening, the president (Miss Gray) in the chair. Two new members were elected. The balance sheet was read and adopted, and showed a heavy call on the sick fund during the past 12 months. After business a quoit competition was held, the prize being given by Mrs. Corbett. The winner (Mrs. Sheppard) put on the record number for the branch. Next meeting, January 4th. It was decided to hold the anniversary fruit soiree in the shire hall on Monday, February 7th.

The quarterly meeting of the Pride of Northcote Tent, I.O.R., was held on the 14th inst., with the C.R. in the chair. There were three new members initiated. The election of officers for the ensuing half year took place. The following is the result of the election:—C.R., Sis. Copperthwaite; D.R., Sis. Drew; secretary, Sis. Dennis (re-elected); treasurer, Sis. Ward (re elected); M.S., Sis. Auty; W.S., Sis. Brewster; levite, Sis. Robilliard; guardian, Sis. Moore; press correspondent, Sis. Knapp (re-elected).

A meeting of the Preston A.N.A. was held in the Bradford hall on Wednesday, 22nd, the president (Mr. Baker) in the chair. Correspondence was received from metropolitan committee forwarding tickets for farewell to the American boys on Boxing night. Members were reminded that those boys had contributed a sum of £800 to the Victorian charities. All members on sick list were reported improving. Two nominations for membership were received. The secretary read the balance sheet for the past half year, which showed the branch to be in a sound financial position. Mr. Winnett read the auditors' report, which was received and left in hands of committee to give effect to some of the recommendations. The prize of £1 1s which had been donated by an A.N.A. enthusiast for the member proposing the largest number of members for the half year was won by E. Kupsch with 18 proposals. The prize was presented to him by the president. A pleasant hour was spent at parlour games. The president wished members the compliments of the season, and thus closed an enjoyable evening.

CRICKET.

NORTHCOTE V. ST. KILDA.

First Eleven.

This match was played at St. Kilda. The toss was won by Dudgeon, who decided to bat on a perfect wicket. Ainslie and Hotchin opened, and with 6 on the board the former gave a hot chance low down to Lugton off Spicer, but was not held. The score mounted slowly to 42, when Hotchin, foolishly attempting a fourth run, was run out. Whithy followed, and after making 14 was bowled by Spicer. R. Smith came next, and when he had made 9 he played one from Richardson on to his wicket. Dudgeon joined Ainslie, made 15, and was then well held by Plant low down at square leg off Mitchell—a really splendid catch. Upward followed, and with Ainslie added 52 runs, when Bailey bowled Ainslie, who had made 100, occupying 2 hours 48 minutes in doing so. With the exception of the chance already spoken of the innings was a good one. Matthews joined Upward and put on 14 to quick time, when Bailey bowled him. Armstrong followed, and he and Upward added 58 runs, when Upward was bit one of Plant's and was held by Bailey, having made 55 in 1 hour 43 minutes. Russ followed, only to lose Armstrong very soon after, [illegible] Spicer off Plant for 24. Fitzgerald joined Russ and played out time, 8 wickets being down for 262. The scoring throughout was never very fast, 60 runs being made in the first 2 hours, 71 in the 3rd hour, and the balance (71) in 53 minutes. Two points feature was the good bowling and fielding of the fielding "Mid-on" remarked "Northcote are to be commended for it." With two exceptions the fielding was nearly perfect, and Lovett kept wickets splendidly. Bowling—Bailey, 2 for 33; Spicer, 1 for 84; Richardson, 1 for 61; Plant, 2 for 26; Mitchell, 1 for 28.

Second Eleven.

The second elevens of the above played in the Northcote park, the ground being in good order. Wilkinson, the local skipper, won the toss and decided to bat, sending in Studley and Ashby to open the innings. After making 16 the former was given out leg before wicket, but Ashby, who was joined by E. Yeomans, attacked the bowling with much vigor, getting 9 fourers out of a total of 51. Yeomans got 40 by good cricket, including 6 fourers. Others who battled well were Cox 27, Coyle 25, and Bolton 14. The innings closed for 237. St. Kilda have lost 2 wickets for 70, Bolton and Andrew each securing 1 wicket.

Country Trip.—A team from Northcote C.C. are playing at the Golden City this afternoon on the Eastern Oval against Ballarat, and on Monday against the Miners' team.

Northcote Presbyterian A v. Yarraville, Northcote, 34 (Adams 10 not out); Yarraville, 44 and 2 for 40 (Harrison 6 for 16). The match will be continued on the 8th January.

Preston Amateurs v. Surrey Hills, played at Preston park. Amateurs, 9 for 170 (Greenhalgh 50, Haysom 44, Rankin 15, Kerr 14, Westmoreland, 14 not out, Stanlake 12 not out, Broadhurst 13); Surrey Hills, 111 (Hedigan 4 for 19, Kerr 4 for 37, Broadhurst 1 for 30). Amateurs won by 59 runs.

Everleigh, 105 (Hills 69 not out) v. Norwood, 28 (Neal 6 for 8, Doran 4 for 14).

Preston Methodists v. Carlton. Scores—Carlton, 151; Preston, 106 (W. Punch 20, L. Punch 26, Stephenson 16, Gibbs 15). Preston suffered their first defeat by 45 on the first innings.

Northcote Presbyterian B, 44 (Landy 13, Hayes 13) v. Preston, 92 and 1 for 13 (Donaldson 3 for 6, Thomson 3 for 27). The match will be finished on January 8th.

Amusements.

HIP! HIP!! HURRAH!!!

A BAG of SWEETS for EVERY BOY and GIRL visiting the NORTHCOTE PARK TO-NIGHT.

SPECIAL PROGRAMME of LIVING PICTURES never before shown in Melb.

Popular Items by MILITARY BAND.

A MERRY XMAS assured all who Visit our Entertainment To-Night.

One Visit and you will be a Constant Visitor.

SPECIAL NEW YEAR PROGRAMME for Next Saturday.

Adults, 3d. Children, 1d.

G. POCKNALL, Hon. Sec. N.S.R.A.

NORTHCOTE FOOTBALL CLUB are holding a MONSTER BIOSCOPE CONCERT at the Croxton Recreation Reserve on NEW YEAR'S NIGHT (Saturday, 1st January) at 8 p.m. Monster Programme. Selected Artists & Pictures. Collection at gates.

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The Palace of LIVING PICTURES.

Right opposite the Terminus of Clifton Hill and Northcote Trains.

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A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

The Annual Public

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will be held at the

YAN YEAN RESERVE,

overlooking the Reservoir,

On SATURDAY, 1st JANUARY, 1910.

Prizes will be offered for Fancy Dancing (for boys and girls under 16 years of age):—Highland Fling, Sailors' Hornpipe, Sword Dance, Irish Jig, and Reel of Tullock; also Skipping Contest. First event at 1 p.m. sharp.

Merry-Go-Round, Swings, Foot-Racing, Throwing Cricket Ball, Punch and Judy, and other amusements.

All entries to be made on the ground.

An Efficient Brass Band has been engaged to render selections during the day.

A charge of 6d for admittance will be made at the gates. Proceeds will be devoted to charitable purposes.

SPECIAL TRAINS & CHEAP FARES. (See Time-Table).

M. THOMAN, Treasurer.
JAMES RYAN, Hon. Sec.

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Junction of Queen's Parade and Alexandra Parade, close to Brunswick Street and Smith Street Trams.

OPEN DAILY from 6 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. Sundays, 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.

MAGNIFICENT SWIMMING BATHS. Men's Basin, 175ft. x 80ft., depth 2ft. 6in. to 7ft. 6in., is the largest in Victoria. Will accommodate 1000 bathers and 2000 spectators. Fitted with 3 Spring Boards, Diving Stage, Water Slide, Punching Ball, &c., &c.

Women's Basin, 70ft. x 30ft., depth 2ft. 6in. to 6ft. 6in. Fitted with Spring Board, Diving Stage, Mirrors, Dressing Boxes, &c.

Charges for Admission:—Adults 3d, Juniors 2d and 1d. Packets of 12 tickets:—Adults 2/6, Juniors 1/9. Monthly tickets 5/. (Concessions are made to members of recognised Swimming Clubs).

SLIPPER BATHS with Hot and Cold Water and Showers, fitted up with every convenience, 1s for Males and 6d for Females, are READY AT ALL HOURS. Males—1st class 9d, 2nd class 6d. Females—1st class 6d.

A. BATSON, Town Clerk.

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Thanks his customers for their patronage during the last twelve months, and wishes them **"all Christmas joys."**

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which are kept **UNDER COVER.**

Our prices are quite as cheap as any in the City and only first quality sold.

We have a complete steam plant doing our own sawing, moulding, planing, band sawing and turning, and are prepared to execute any class of work, undertaking to give **honest value, civility,** and **attention,** and trust for a continuance of the support so cordially given in the past.

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FIRE AT NORTHCOTE.

While the hot wind was raging on Monday morning last a fire broke out at the dwelling of Mrs. F. Hunter, 21 Flinders street. A spark from the copper ignited the wash house, which was soon ablaze. The flames spread to the pantry and had reached the back portion of the main roof, but at this point the Northcote fire brigade, who had arrived on the scene in quick time, effected a good stop. The building was insured in the London, Liverpool and Globe for £400, but the contents were uninsured.

Houses and Land For Sale.

HILLSIDE Estate, Preston. Marvellous value. Don't delay. 40ft. blocks from 1/6 weekly. No deposit. No interest. Full particulars, A. Robertson, corner High and Bell streets, Preston.

McGEORGE BROS., AUCTIONEER, Subdivisional Land Salesmen, Insurance Experts, and Rent Collectors, 323 HIGH STREET, PRESTON (Murray station), AUCTION ROOMS, Sydney Road, corner The Grove, MORELAND.

PRESTON.
BETTER THAN BUILDING SOCIETIES.
£50 deposit and 13/6 week, including interest.
NEW QUEEN ANNE VILLA, 5 rooms, latest finish, land 40 x 165, at station. Highest Position. Free Railway Pass. This Villa is let at 13/6 per week. Cards to view from McGEORGE BROS., Local Auctioneer.

PRESTON.
GENTLEMAN'S HOME, 11 acres of Land, Subdivided and beautifully laid out in grass paddocks, orchard, flower and vegetable garden. The Villa is a most complete structure of brick, Queen Anne design, 8 rooms, hollow walls, with every possible comfort, and in perfect order, with stabling and outbuildings of every requirement. Convenient distance to station and enjoying an uninterrupted view of the country in every direction. Order of inspection at the offices of the Auctioneer, McGeorge Bros.

PRESTON.
£50 Deposit and 25/ week will buy a SUPERIOR HOME, 7 rooms and usual conveniences, about 1¼ acres of land. Fruit trees, shrubbery, usual outbuildings. Suitable for retired people or City business man. Early inspection invited. McGEORGE BROS., Valuers.

PRESTON.—Large selection Brick and W.B. Cottages, all parts of district. Reasonable rent terms arranged. Land buyers, consult us. Plans and all information gratis. McGeorge Bros., Auctioneer.

PRESTON.—New Villa, 5 rooms, conveniences, designed for comfort, nice high position, land 40 x 120, £275. Easy rent terms. McGeorge Bros., local.

PRESTON.—Must sell. Sacrifice. New Queen Anne villa, 5 large rooms, poultry houses, land 57 x 143, delightful position, £335. Terms. McGeorge Bros., Auctioneer, Murray station.

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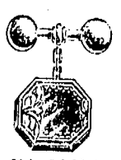

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280 High Street, Northcote.

We close all day Saturday (Christmas Day) and Monday (Boxing Day).

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Evening and Wedding Dresses a Speciality.

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MILLINERY & STRAWS,

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Compliments

Wishing you all a very

Merry Christmas.

BEST & CO.,

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NORTHCOTE TOWN COUNCIL.

MONDAY, 20TH DECEMBER.

Present:—Crs. Hayes (mayor), Mitchell, Bastings, Williams, Robb, Tharratt, Woolhouse, Harry, Plant, McIntosh, Smith, Dennis, Bainbridge, and Lees.

METROPOLITAN BOARD'S PECULIAR STAND.

The Metropolitan Board of Works wrote stating that until an easement was granted to the Board free of cost to go through the council's land between Clarendon and Flinders streets the sewerage reticulation in that neighborhood would not be proceeded with. It was not the practice of the Board to give compensation for going through municipal land.

Cr. Plant said he thought this was a very strange attitude for the Board to take up. The land was supposed to be for sale, and suppose they parted with it the Board would have no alternative but to pay.

Cr. Bastings took the same view. The land had cost the council a lot of money and if it was partly spoiled by a sewer being taken through it it was only fair that they should get reasonable compensation.

On the suggestion of Cr. Mitchell it was decided that a deputation consisting of the mayor and Crs. Tharratt and Bastings wait on the sewerage committee re the matter.

WATER EXTENSION.

The Metropolitan Board wrote agreeing to extend the water in Arthurton road from St. George's road eastwards.—Received.

PENDER'S GROVE ESTATE.

The Closer Settlement Board wrote forwarding plan of land on Pender's Grove Estate it was proposed to make available for selection at an early date.—The engineer had pointed out several necessary alterations of which the town clerk had notified the Board. Their action was approved.

DISCOUNT ON TAR.

The Metropolitan Gas Co. wrote offering to supply tar at 4½ per gallon with a discount of 10 per cent. if a fixed quantity was ordered per year.

Cr. Plant moved that the council guarantee to take £100 worth a year for the next two years, which would be well within average consumption, and they might as well get the advantage of the 10 per cent.

Motion carried.

THE LIBRARY SITE PURCHASE.

W. S. Stott wrote stating the London Bank was now willing to accept the contract for the sale of the 91 feet of land at corner of High and James streets without interest from June last, but asked £10 for interest up to the end of November, with £2 2s perusal fees.

Cr. Plant remarked that this was "very strong." He never heard of such a thing before. Till a contract was signed there was nothing binding on either party. For his own part he would sooner find a site somewhere else than comply with such a condition. He moved that a reply be sent offering interest from date of signing contract, together with perusal fees.

Cr. Robb seconded the motion, remarking that the claim for interest was absurd on the face of it.

Motion carried.

OPENING A PATH.

H Doldge wrote asking for permit to open footpath on west side of Eastmont street for sewerage connections.—Granted.

RENEWAL OF LICENSES.

Henry Bishop, L. Dickenson, Thos. H. Henderson and John Jones wrote applying for renewals of their noxious trades licenses.—Referred to inspector for report.

A NOTICE BOARD.

The Northcote Church of Christ wrote applying for permission to put up a notice board at the entrance to the Rechabite hall, Westbourne grove.—Granted, subject to the approval of the engineer.

CLARKE STREET EAST.

A. Bolton wrote complaining of the condition of the channel in Clarke street below Mason street, where he was building a house.—Referred to works committee, on the motion of Crs. Smith and Plant.

WESTGARTH STREET DRAIN.

W. T. Shattell wrote again bringing under notice the foul state of the drain in Westgarth street. It was a menace to health and he would suggest that the drain be flushed with a water cart every morning.—Referred to inspector for report, on the motion of Cr. Plant.

DRAINAGE IN UNION STREET.

W. W. Worley wrote asking that the drainage defects in his neighborhood, 61 Union street, be given immediate attention, as two more of his children had fallen ill through the unhealthy surroundings.—Cr. Robb moved and Cr. Bainbridge seconded that the matter be referred to the inspector, with power to act.—Carried.

TOO EARLY SANITARY CARTS.

E. C. Tribe wrote, on behalf of the guardians of Holy Trinity Church, complaining of the sanitary carts coming round as early as 6.30 p.m. As meetings were often on at that time it caused very serious annoyance.

Cr. Tharratt moved that the officers be instructed to see that the conditions of the contract are carried out.

Cr. Robb seconded.—Carried.

BRIDGE WANTED.

W. A. Raymond wrote asking permission to place a bridge across the channel opposite his premises 241 Westgarth street.—Cr. Bainbridge moved and Cr. Dennis seconded that the request be complied with, subject to the bridge being approved of by the engineer.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

Cr. Robb (chairman) submitted the report, recommending—

1. That accounts amounting to £397 16s 10d be passed for payment.—Adopted.

2. Sanitary inspector's report re drain entering the Merri Creek from the City of Collingwood on the east side of the Northcote Bridge.—Reporting that he had inspected the drain and found it in a sanitary condition, there being very little water flowing from it.—Adopted.

3. Lane construction.—That plans be prepared for the construction of lane or passage between Gladstone avenue and Beaver's road.—Adopted.

4. Channelling, Bay View Terrace, north side.—That the channelling of the street is carried out by day labor, and the cost of same charged out of the east ward ward appropriation.—Adopted.

5. Westgarth street, culvert under the railway.—That the proposal of the Railway Department to bear its proportion of the cost of laying down of a new pipe culvert and channel be agreed to, and the town surveyor be instructed to confer with the officers of the Department and prepare plan and specification of the council's portion of the work with a view to proceed therewith.—Adopted.

6. Reid street drainage.—That the council deem it expedient to execute in Reid street works of construction which will concentrate and divert drainage flowing thereon, and after so concentrating and diverting such drainage such works will cause it to be discharged on to land abutting on the southern end of the said street owned by the New Northcote Brick Co. Limd., the surveyor to prepare plans, &c.—Adopted.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Cr. Bastings (chairman) submitted the report, showing that the receipts for the month had been £552 10s, and that the overdraft was £6733 18s 4d. Also recommending—

1. That accounts amounting to £693 10s 9d be passed for payment.—Adopted.

2. Weights and Measures Union report.—That the sum of £6 10s, this council's proportion of the estimated expenses of the Union for the year 1909 10, be paid.—Adopted.

3. Rats Destruction.—That on and after this date the purchase of rats be discontinued.

Cr. Bastings moved the adoption of the report.

Cr. Plant said he thought that for the small amount it cost they might as well continue paying this bonus for rat destruction, which in the opinion of such a high authority as Dr. Greaves was considered so necessary.

Cr. Bastings said it would be all right if the other municipalities fell into line, but as it was Northcote just made a dumping ground for the rats of the whole neighborhood. Besides it was causing the young of the intelligence to be put to a wrong use, one of them converting a voucher for 9 rats into 10. (Laughter.)

The mayor said he thought they could give the boys a spell till the other municipalities fell into line.

5. Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital statement for quarter ended 30 h September last and estimate for quarter ending 31st inst.—That the sum of £17 6s 2½, this council's proportion of the estimated expenditure for the current quarter, be paid.—Adopted.

6. Annual cleaning of municipal buildings.—That the offices be closed on the 24th inst. and re-opened on the 4th January, 1910, an officer to attend on such days as are not public holidays at 9 a.m. to attend to urgent matters, and the bailkeeper be allowed any assistance required for the proper cleansing of the building.—Adopted.

7. Lane off Edwards street.—That the owners of property abutting thereon having agreed to pay their respective proportions of the cost of construction of such lane, the public works committee be authorised to invite tenders for the execution of the work.—Adopted.

ORDINARY BUSINESS.

Cr. Plant said they might save a good deal of trouble by getting their next loan from the same quarter as Heidelbergshire. He moved that the matter be left in the hands of the mayor and Cr. Bastings to see what could be done.—Carried.

The town clerk said Northcote would probably be required to pay its proportion of the cost of taking portion of the drainage through Heidelbergshire about March next.

Cr. Tharratt moved that application be made to the Metropolitan Board to extend the main in Emmaline and Spencer streets.

Cr. Bastings moved and Cr. Plant seconded that the finance committee be authorised to sign cheques for wages, &c., during the holidays.—Carried.

Cr. Tharratt moved that the surveyor prepare plans for the right-of-way between Stott and Johnson streets.—Carried.

Cr. Tharratt said he thought the sewer vent pipes were usually relegated to back streets and right-of-ways, but he noticed one had been erected in High street, near the Croxton Hotel.

It was understood Commissioner Mitchell would look into the matter.

Cr. Lees moved that the Gas Company be asked to lay their mains along South Crescent to Clarke street. There were four kerosene street lamps in the neighborhood, which could be converted into gas lamps.

Cr. Smith seconded the motion, which was carried.

Cr. Bainbridge said the east side of High street at Rucker's Hill was in a very bad state and yet the engineer said it had been metalled only 6 weeks previously. He moved that the matter be referred to the works committee with a view of thinking out some scheme that would reduce the cost of maintenance.

Cr. Plant seconded the motion.

Cr. Mitchell said they had been trying to solve this problem this eight years. On every other hill there was the same trouble. The only way was to set apart a man to attend to it.

The motion was carried.

Cr. Bainbridge moved that the Collingwood council's attention be called to the state of the roadway at the tram terminus. Seconded by Cr. Plant and carried.

On the motion of Crs. Plant and Mitchell it was decided to hold next meeting on the 10th January.

Cr. Dennis moved that the officers of the various municipalities who have decided to use kerosene on the Merri Creek with a view of minimising the mosquito plague co operate together in order that the work might be carried out on some system. The mosquitoes were already getting very bad.

The engineer—We are only killing them on our side of the creek.

Cr. Plant—What use is that? We must have joint action.

It was understood Cr. Dennis's suggestion would be carried out.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

McCracken avenue and Hartington street, from Hawthorn road to Arthurton road, plan 4788.—To hear objections (if any) to the plans, specifications, scheme of distribution, &c.

The town clerk explained a matter had cropped up which would prevent the plans being adopted that night, but as objectors may be present they could be heard.

A. J. Cornish objected to his assessment as excessive—£50 on a 40ft. block, or, in his opinion, £23 too much. He was charged at the rate of £1 2s 6d a foot, while others were getting off at 8s and 12s foot.

Mr. Nicholson wanted to know why his assessment had been increased. It was explained that this was due to metalling full width instead of only 16 feet.

Mr. A. W. Coughlan appeared to have a fear that he was being charged twice over, but his doubts were removed.

Cr. Bastings moved that the matter be deferred for four weeks, Mr. Cornish's objection to be considered by the committee of the whole.

MELBOURNE HOSPITAL.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—Will you permit me, through the medium of your columns, to bring before your readers the claims of the Melbourne Hospital upon their generous consideration? The demands made on the resources of the institution in the past year were very considerable—the number of out-patients was 21,606, and the number of in patients 5544. At the same time the cost of supplies increased to such an extent as to make a difference of some thousands of pounds in the expenditure for maintenance. These causes have been responsible for a backward drift in the finances, which, at the close of the year ended 30th June, had amounted to £4436, and has since increased to £7352.

I venture to hope that the notably generous Victorian public will come forward in ready response to this appeal and will relieve their great general hospital of its burden of debt.—Yours, &c.,

JOHN GRICE, President.

KEEP HANDY

in the home, workshop or factory a pot of Zam-Buk, the ideal first-aid dressing for cuts, bruises, sprains, burns, scalds, and skin injuries. Its active vegetable constituents being so pure and wholesome,

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is a perfect healing Balm for every day household use. Zam-Buk soothes pain, prevents festering and blood-poison, and heals perfectly by growing new skin. Zam-Buk, therefore, should be kept handy

FOR XMAS MISHAPS

Xmas! Xmas!

A. LEWIS,

350 QUEEN'S PARADE,

NORTH FITZROY,

Has just opened a Large Assortment of

New Lines

in

FANCY GOODS,

GLASSWARE, VASES,

PERFUMERY,

STATIONERY and TOYS.

Also all the NEWEST DESIGNS in XMAS and NEW YEAR CARDS for the Xmas Trade.

Open Every Night for Stationery and Cards.

INSPECT WINDOW BEFORE PURCHASING ELSEWHERE.

IF your business is falling off, do not allow it to drift. ADVERTISE and regain it

NORTHCOTE POLICE COURT.

MONDAY, 20TH DECEMBER

[Before Messrs F. J. Plant (chairman), W. Hayes, and E. Bailey, J's.P.]

ALLEGED THEFT OF A DOG.

Victor Fisher was charged with stealing a greyhound pup, the property of Alexander Short. Sub-inspector Bennett prosecuted and Mr. Brayshay defended the case.

Alexander Short, contractor, said that he missed a greyhound pup, 6 months old, which he valued at £15 15s. He advertised and offered a reward for its recovery, but heard no trace of it. On the 9th November he met the accused in Walker street, Northcote, and after talking with him for a while the subject of dogs came up and accused said he had seen a dog answering the description given in Sydney road, Brunswick. Witness was so satisfied with the particulars given that he went to Brunswick to see if they could come across the dog, but their quest was unsuccessful. Hearing that his dog had been seen at Lilydale he proceeded there the following Sunday, and, after making some unsuccessful inquiries, he went to the police station with the result that Constable Considine got possession of the dog from a man named Shanks. The dog produced was his dog.

In answer to a question witness stated that accused came to his place on the 9th about a job and he had not seen him since.

Constable Considine stated that from information received he went to the house where Clarence Shanks lived and after some conversation with him he handed over the dog.

Albert Fisher, horsebreaker, Lilydale, said that his mother and father told him to get rid of the dog as they were tired of seeing it about and he sold it to Clarence Shanks for 15s. He gave the money to his father and mother.

Constable Lanigan stated that when he interviewed accused in November last he informed him that he bought the dog from a bottleman in Walker street, Northcote, and had it consigned to Lilydale from the Clifton Hill station.

There being no further evidence the Bench dismissed the case.

CYCLING ON FOOTPATHS.

Frederick Coghill and Bert Green were each fined 10s for riding their cycles on the footpath.

ANTI-VACCINATIONIST.

Albert Keating was fined 40s and 5s costs for refusing to comply with the provisions of the Vaccination Act.

MAINTENANCE CASE.

Florence Ada Wood, of Alphington, sued her husband, James Oliver Wood, for the maintenance of their son, Norman Ronald, five years of age.

Florence Wood deposed that she had not been residing with her husband since August last. Her husband's conduct toward her was such that it was impossible to live with him any longer. She had possession of their only child and asked the court to order the father to make provision for its maintenance.

Exhaustive evidence was given by both the complainant and defendant, and after being severely cross examined by counsel the Bench made an order for 10s a week, the first payment to be made on Monday next, and the defendant to find one surety for £25. The costs were fixed at £2 4s 6d.

PROSECUTION UNDER THE FACTORIES ACT.

George T. Collopy, inspector of factories, proceeded against Gustav Beere, for neglecting to comply with the provisions of the Factories Act The assistant Crown Prosecutor, Mr. J. W. K. Freeman, prosecuted.

William McMahon, officer under the Factories Act, said that there were six charges against the defendant, three for not complying with the half-holiday provisions and three for working his employes more than the statutory number of hours during any one week.

Defendant pleaded guilty.

Emily Howell, barmaid, stated that during the week ending on the 27th November last she worked 76 hours and for the week ending 4th December 69½ hours. The maximum number of hours allowed by the Act was 56. In two successive weeks she had not been given the complete half-holiday.

Alice Hastings said during the week ending on 4th December she worked about 63 hours and failed to get her half-holiday.

The defendant said that he could only make the number of hours worked by his employes 58½ hours, which included two hours for clearing up on Sunday.

Mr. Freeman—On defendant's own showing he has committed a breach of the Act.

A fine of 5s was imposed in each case, with £3 9s costs.

SNATCHING A BETTING TICKET.

Frank Tobin was charged with snatching a betting ticket from Thomas Rose at the Fitzroy racecourse on the 27th ult. Inspector Bennett prosecuted.

Thomas Rose, produce merchant, Brunswick, said that he attended the Fitzroy races on the 27th. He backed St. Idol at 8 to 1 and the value of the ticket was 22s 6d. He was making towards the bookmaker with the the ticket in his hand when Tobin snatched it from him. He at once seized him by the wrists and held him amidst much excitement and jostling till a policeman arrived, when he gave him in charge.

Michael Neyland said he saw a young fellow make a grab at the ticket and run away, and remarked to Rose that he thought he had got the wrong man.

Constable Beattie said when they got to the watch-house defendant neither had the ticket nor any money in his possession. Tobin said he would go back and borrow 22s 6d and pay it over to Rose rather than be locked up.

Frank Tobin denied having snatched the ticket and declared that it was never in his possession.

—, Warrnambie, metal worker, Albert Park, stated that he was in company with Tobin when Rose seized hold of him, and he was satisfied that he did not take the ticket.

The Bench considered the charge proved and imposed a fine of 40s, with 16s costs.

ADVERTISING V. "BUSTING."

Two men did business side by side;
For getting trade the first relied
On advertising far and wide,
The while the second trusted
To other methods to obtain
The golden prize he sought to gain,
Upon the first the dollars rain—
The other merchant busted.

PAINTING!

We have made a study of it because we believe in good painting as a decorative feature of the home.

Two Strong Reasons for placing your Order with us.

If you don't know much about decorating and the harmony of colors our experience profits you.

If you are a connoisseur you will appreciate all the more our good work.

D. B. MASSON,

HOUSE DECORATOR

and

IRONMONGER,

236 High St., Northcote.

You should buy at the above, Paperhangings, Leads, Oils, Colors, Varnish, Glass, Mixed Paint and Enamel, Water Paints, Ironmongery, Tinware, Brushware, Crockery, Fly Wire Wire Netting, Garden Tools, Earthenware, Lime, Cement, Plaster.

EPPING SHIRE COUNCIL.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20.

Present:—Crs. McCormack (president), McCoy, Bodycoat, Browne, Morgan, and Dea.

CORRESPONDENCE.

From Lands Department stating that the council could not have certain land in Epping township for quarry purposes, as the stone may be required for State purposes.—Received.

From Public Works Department asking to be supplied with sketches of unmetalled roads occupied by Mr. S. O'Hern and Michael Keating.—The secretary had supplied same.

From Municipal Association of Victoria forwarding copies of report of annual session.—Copies were received and distributed to councillors.

From Shire of Deakin asking council to communicate with its representatives in the Upper House asking them to strenuously oppose the proposed Land Tax Bill.

The question was raised that this was a political matter.

The president ruled that as the representatives of the ratepayers they certainly had a right to deal with such matters. Several had asked him to oppose the Bill.

Cr. Morgan moved that we write to our representatives in the Upper House asking them to oppose the Bill.

Cr. Bodycoat seconded.

Cr. Browne said that certainly the old land tax needed amendment, but the present proposals were too drastic. It would be much better to increase the income tax.

The president strongly supported the motion, and said that the members of the assembly who had opposed the Bill deserved the thanks of the country. He admired their member (Mr. Robertson) very much for the speech he made on the third reading. He tore Mr. Watt's arguments to rags. It was a pity the speech was not delivered earlier as it was sure to have influenced members.

Cr. McCoy—I don't understand the Bill.

The president—Well, oppose everything you don't understand. (Laughter)

Cr. McCoy—I would be in favour of a referendum.

The president—I would not. It would be putting it in the hands of factory girls over 21 to say whether we should have the Bill or not.

The motion was carried, Cr. Dea voting against.

From Shire of Preston stating that this council's request that an amount be set apart for the improvement of Mahoney's road would be considered with the estimates.

Cr. McCoy said he was sorry to see one of the Preston councillors say that the money already spent there was useless. The road was used by a great many.

Cr. Morgan said that one of the conditions on which the land was given was that the road should be made fit for traffic.

From Shire of Merriang strongly approving of this council's suggestion that a mounted constable be stationed at Bonny brook during the summer months. They had written to the Chief Commissioner of Police on the matter.—Received.

From A. R. Robertson, M.L.A., stating that the Railway Department had reconsidered the matter of providing better lighting at Epping station but could not see their way to alter their previous decision.

Cr. McCoy moved and Cr. Morgan seconded that Mr. Robertson be thanked for his efforts in the matter.—Carried.

From S. O'Hern stating he had been charged 8s per acre for 12 acres of unused road, whereas he only occupied 10½ acres, and it was not an unused road, having two gates and being subject to a certain amount of traffic. He considered half the rent charged would have been a fair thing.—Writer to be informed that the matter was between him and the Government.

From Maddock, Jamieson and Lonie, council's solicitors, stating that this council was liable for the maintenance of any patients sent from the shire to the Infectious Diseases Hospital, but the council could recover from each patient the amount paid.

Cr. Browne—Under these circumstances we will have to make up our minds to recover all costs from patients or their relatives.

Cr. McCoy said it would be very hard to get any money from some of these people.

Consideration postponed till next meeting.

From Shire of Merriang forwarding voucher for £10 5s, being half cost of joint work done on shire boundary, and resenting criticism by this council of cost of the work as unasked for.

Cr. Browne said he thought the Merriang engineer's remark was "uncalled for."

The letter was received.

From W. Hunter forwarding account for £2 5s, being cost of repairing jinker damaged by running into the embankment of lane near Harvest Home Hotel, which he considered too narrow for traffic. He would like the council to recoup him this cost, which would save him going to law.

Cr. Morgan moved and Cr. McCoy seconded that the letter be sent to the council's solicitors, with instructions to act on their behalf.—Carried.

FINANCE.

The treasurer (Mr. G. McClelland) reported having received since last meeting £48 5s 6d. Present Dr. balance, £755 3s 3d.

It was remarked that this was over the limit allowed by the Act.

Accounts for the month amounting to £86 3s 4d were passed for payment, on the motion of Crs. Morgan and Browne.

ENGINEER'S REPORT.

1. Got J. E. Hall to fill up holes and ruts on Glenvale road, near Gardiner's.

2. Have called tenders for supply of maintenance metal.

TENDERS.

1. Supplying 450 yards 2½ inch metal on main road from shire hall southwards.—Cr. Morgan moved and Cr. Dea seconded that the tender of M. Keating and J. Brazil at £142 10s be accepted. Carried.

2 Supplying 250 yards 2½ inch metal Epping main road from shire hall north to Boundary road.—Cr. Morgan moved and Cr. Dea seconded that the tender of J. Brazil at £61 0s 2d be accepted. Carried.

3 Supplying 100 yards freestone metal on Main road, between Grant's road and the Merriang post office, or, alternatively, 100 yards of best freestone metal.—Cr. Browne moved and Cr. McCormack seconded that the tender of Brazil Bros. at 3s 5d per yard be accepted. Carried.

4 Forming and channelling 10 chains Main road, Merriang, north of portion gravelled last year.—The tender of M. Keating and J. Brazil was accepted, on the motion of Crs. Morgan and McCoy.

ORDINARY BUSINESS.

Cr. McCoy drew the engineer's attention to the bad condition of the main road near the Thomastown station.

Cr. Bodycoat moved that the fencing at Boundary road and other places where down be attended to.—Carried.

ANNUAL MEETING.

W. P. Steano, Government auditor, reported having examined accounts for the year, and certified to their correctness. Coleman, the dog collector, had overpaid 8s and the treasurer 9s 9d. These amounts should be refunded. Would recommend that the dog fees collector be supplied with a cash book. He must draw attention to the arrears of rates and would recommend that searches be made at the Titles office and a start made to wipe out this increasing amount. The secretary had his books and papers in good order and he had to thank him for assistance during the audit.

The statement showed that the total receipts for the year were £1473 8s 10d, the principal items being—Rates, £744 12s; Government grant, £393; licenses, £79; dog fees, £50.

The chief items of expenditure were—Contracts £583 9s 5d; day labor, £367 15s; salaries, £222; proportion Craigieburn bridge, £117 13s 9d.

The overdraft at the end of the year was £670 16s 4d, which Cr. Browne pointed out was about £100 greater than last year.

The president made it out that Epping riding owed £275 more than the Woodstock riding.

After looking into the accounts Cr. Morgan moved and Cr. Browne seconded that they be finally settled and allowed. Carried.

It was decided to carry out the recommendations of the auditor.

Cr. Morgan said he had pleasure in moving that a vote of thanks be passed to the officers. It was very satisfactory to have officers who fulfilled their duties in such a correct and proper way.

Cr. Bodycoat seconded the motion, which was supported by Crs. McCoy and Browne. The latter remarked that the only fault was that the collector was rather lenient with those in arrears with their rates.

The president—That is the fault of the council.

The motion was carried with acclamation.

Mr. Lockwood (engineer) in acknowledging the compliment, said that as long as he was able to do the work he would endeavour to do it as satisfactorily as in the past. When he could no longer do it he would step aside and make room for somebody else.

Mr. Ryan, secretary and collector, said the officers only did their duty; but all the same it was pleasing to see their services appreciated. It would be an incentive to good work in the future.

The meeting closed with the president (Cr. McCormack) wishing councillors, officers and the Press, "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

XMAS Biliousness

Eating richer food and eating more freely than usual is the cause of many people being out of sorts to-day. Headache, coated tongue, "wind," bad breath, vomiting, dizziness, jaundice, and pains near the left shoulder blade and across the stomach, always yield to a few doses of Bile Beans after the midday meal and upon retiring. Bile Beans dispel these wretched symptoms; they restore the vivacity and brightness of renewed health. They differ from all ordinary pills and medicines in that they are composed of valuable extracts from roots and herbs, and can always be relied upon to cure.

1/1½ per box, 2/9 large size.

BILE BEANS

FOR

Electroplate Ware

of all descriptions.

WM. WALKER,

WATCHMAKER & JEWELLER,

92 HIGH STREET, 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, 3 to 4.

Terms on application.

MR. SIDNEY R. COLE, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., London; PROFESSOR of VOICE PRODUCTION, SINGING and PIANOFORTE,

Desires to notify that in consequence of a large increase of pupils in the City he is unable to visit Northcote as heretofore.

Mr. Cole has leased at Austral Buildings, 117 Collins Street, one of the largest and most commodious studios in the City where he will receive all his pupils on and after December 1st, 1909.

The New Year's term commences February 1st, 1910.

L. BRENNECKE (Royal Conss., 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.

Preston visited twice weekly.

MISS M. V. MAGUIRE (pupil of Mr W. A. Lever, 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.

MRS. A. T. EARL, TEACHER of the VIOLIN.

(Late Pupil of Thos. Bidgood, Bandmaster, and Gold Medalist London Academy of Music.)

Careful and Thorough Tuition for Children and Adults.

Pupils visited or received.

Fees (in advance)—From £1 1s per quarter.

Pupils prepared for Examinations.

Violins supplied.

Songs written for musical setting.

Sketches and Operettas written.

"Bushwood," Dundas St., Upper Northcote.

MISS FANNY SCARCEBROOK, Certificated Pupil of Mr. Henry Carle, Cert. Violin Trinity College, London, Receives Pupils for VIOLIN.

"Glen Alvie," 44 Kemp Street, Croxton; or, 23 Hamburg St., East Richmond.

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.

Societies

A.N.A.

AUSTRALIAN NATIVES' ASSOCIATION.

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—30th December. Open Night.

H. F. BATTEN, Sec., 150 Charles St.

Independent Order of Rechabites.

Star of Northcote Tent No. 217.

MEETINGS held at Rechabite Hall every alternate Thursday

Next Meeting—6th January.

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.

38 Raleigh St., Northcote.

Dentists.

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.

DENTISTRY.

T. WEBSTER, L.D.S. (Licentiate of Dental Surgery) M.A.C.D.

308 Queen's Parade, CLIFTON HILL. Telephone 1832J, City.

Announcements

The Preston Pharmacy.

W. G. FEGENT

(late with Ford & Co., Toorak),

Successor to J. Slade,

PHARMACEUTICAL and DISPENSING CHEMIST,

257 HIGH STREET, PRESTON.

THE Dispensing of Physician's prescriptions is a special feature 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.

The Thornbury Grocer

E. W. INGHAM

563 High St.,

UPPER NORTHCOTE.

Families Waited on for Orders. Delivery daily.

GIVE HIM A TRIAL.

D. J. Cameron,

(Over 12 years with Tacey's)

HAVING purchased A. HELM'S BUTCHERING BUSINESS,

411 High St., Northcote

(opposite Redmond's, Ironmonger),

Begs to notify the Public of Northcote and surrounding districts that he will supply them with the

Best Quality Meat

at

LOWEST CASH PRICES.

CORNED BEEF AND SAUSAGES A SPECIALITY.

Families waited on for orders.

GOOD NEWS!

FOR

Preston Housewives.

Hughes & Jacobs

(late with W. Tacey)

Have commenced business as

Cash & Family Butchers

at

HIGH ST., PRESTON

(Opposite Wilkinson's Timber Yard).

Best of Meat and Small Goods at NORTHCOTE PRICES.

Corned Beef and Sausages a Speciality.

Goods Delivered to Customers at the Shop Cash Prices.

Wanted to Buy.

BOTTLES, Bones, Rags, Zinc, Lead, Brass and Copper. Highest price given. Cash on delivery. Letters receive prompt attention. H. Bishop, Rechabite Rd., Northcote.

Business Notices

J. J. Spence,

First-Class License, M.M.B.W.;

SANITARY PLUMBER

and

Sewerage Contractor.

Gas and Water laid on.

81 Gooch Street, Northcote

"Narinya," Dandenong Rd., Caulfield, 25th October, 1909.

MR. C. SPARLING,

Dear Sir,—My eight-day half-hour striking marble clock, the striking and going mechanism of which was out of order, and which was lying useless for years through several watchmakers failing to repair it, has been satisfactorily repaired in every particular and is now going well.

Yours gratefully,

WILLIAM ROGERSON.

C. SPARLING, Dandenong Rd., Northcote

Notified orders called for.

Are you allowing faulty illustrations to be inserted wit your advertising matter?

If so, you are killing the convincing power of your advertisement.

Allow me to give you advice when in doubt as to which class of block to use.

I have every facility for the making and perfecting of half-tone and zinc blocks for newspapers, magazines, and catalogues.

Write or phone 1553 Central.

H. W. VEREY,

479 Collins Street, Melbourne.

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, 4½ ,, ironed only, 3d

Collars ironed only, 9d per doz.

Collar washed and ironed, 1d

Shirts sent for and returned.

A. FREEMAN,

Wholesale and Retail Produce Merchant,

High St., North Preston.

WISHES to notify the residents of Preston and surrounding districts that he has opened business at above address.

Having had 20 years' experience in the Wholesale and Retail Chaff and Grain Trade, is a guarantee that Mr. Freeman is able to buy at the lowest prices and therefore give customers the benefit of his knowledge in supplying the best article at the lowest price.

Chaff and Grain of all descriptions kept in stock and special attention is given to those who require Fowls' Feed.

Farmers and Dairymen would do well to consult Mr. Freeman before buying Bran, as being a very large buyer he is able to put them on the best footing.

ARTHURTON ROAD, NORTHCOTE.

Plans and Specifications drawn up.

Estimates given for all Branches of the Trade.

HAVE YOU TRIED?

McALPIN'S

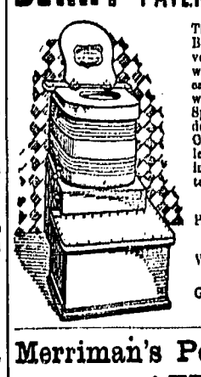
Self-Raising FLOUR.

NEW ELECTRIC PROCESS.

AWARDED FIRST PRIZE.

Ask your Grocer for it.

BERRY PATENT AUTOMATIC CLOSET



The ONLY Rival to Deep Drainage. Best ever invented. Being Automatic Saves all Trouble. Fly, mosquito, and vermin proof. Always clean and sweet. Works like a watch. Guarantee given with each one sent out. No earth, ashes, or sawdust required. Can be used inside as well as outside. Only perfect system yet introduced. Specially constructed for use where not connected with deep drainage. Safeguard against infectious disease. Once purchased, it lasts a lifetime. Cost of disinfectant less than one penny a week. The comfort and cleanliness in using this closet appeal to one and all, and it is worth ten times what we ask for it.

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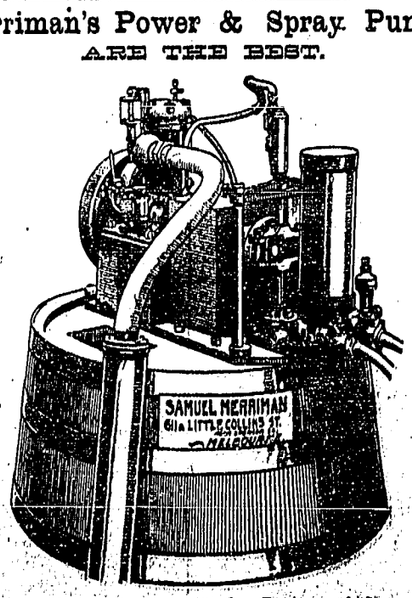
ADDRESS: 26 A'BECKETT ST., MELBOURNE,

Where the article can be inspected from 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., Saturdays 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

GIBSON & SON, 479 Law Courts Place, Melb., or BERRY AUTOMATIC CLOSET CO.

Merriman's Power & Spray Pumps

ARE THE BEST.



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Educational

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Principals: MISSES WESTGARTH, assisted by University Staff (visiting and Resident).

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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, 1 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.

Dancing, Mons. Bibron, Friday evening, 2/6.

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