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IN THE FLASHLIGHT

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BERNARD ROWTHORNE.

Author of "The Jewels of Sin," "The Shadow of the Yamen," etc., etc.
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SYNOPSIS OF PREVIOUS CHAPTERS.

Chapters I. and II.—Carston and Melford are seated in the saloon of a yacht. Carston is threatening Melford with the fact that Otto Freedlam is still alive, and is anxious to learn the whereabouts of his old-time partner, Owen Oldstairs. Melford, driven into a corner, admits tacitly that he is Owen Oldstairs. Margaret, his daughter, comes for a book, and departs almost immediately. Carston makes it plain that, as the price of keeping Melford's real identity secret, he must be allowed to marry Margaret. The girl's father tells Carston about Noel and Donald Mayhew. How that both brothers loved Margaret, but she loved Noel. He went to German East Africa, and three months later was reported missing. They are in a rough sea, and while the men are talking there is a violent lurching of the vessel. The second officer comes to say that the propeller shaft has snapped. There is great danger of driving into Corrievrechan Race, with Jura ahead. The men take to the boats. Melford is terrified, but Carston shows a manly front, procuring life-belts. Carston and Margaret get away in the first boat. This is wrecked. Carston, a strong swimmer, saves both Margaret and himself. They are thrown on to the wet sand of an inlet.

CHAPTERS III & IV.—Carston carries the unconscious Margaret Melford as he tries to find a place of shelter. When she returns to consciousness he still insists on carrying her. They crouch for a rest behind a stone wall. Then they resume their journey, Margaret still being carried. They are hospitably received by an old Highlander and his wife. The old farmer goes to the shore to investigate, but only comes across the bodies of three sailor lads, and a boat, battered to pieces. Margaret makes her appearance after a night's rest somewhat refreshed. She is about to hear a proposal from Carston when the guid wife enters with the breakfast tray. Carston, looking out of a window, tells Margaret that her father is coming across the fields. She rushes out to meet him, with Carston at her heels.

CHAPTER VI.

It was a dewy autumn morning a week later, and Margaret, quite recovered from the shock of her experience off the coast of Argyle, was walking through the fields near her home, in her hand a basket of mushrooms newly gathered. There was a pensive look on her beautiful face, and in her eyes just that faint hint of melancholy that was always there in her less animated moments. Across the short herbage something gleamed whitely in the sunshine, and though her basket was almost full, she moved towards it, and carefully cutting the mushroom represented by the gleaming disc, added it to the spoil already gathered.

As she straightened herself, she became aware of a young man who had just crossed the stile, half a score of yards away, and who was moving towards her with a smile upon his face. Tall, well-proportioned, and good-looking, with a sun-bronzed face that most people liked well enough, he was dressed in sporting coat, riding breeches and gaiters, whilst he carried in his hand an ash-plant, which, as he drew nearer, he pointed in humorous accusation at the girl.

"Fie, Margaret! Poaching?"

"No," answered Margaret, smilingly looking round. "If you want to make me into a poacher, Donald Mayhew, you must put a notice up—'Mushrooms Preserved. Trespassers will be prosecuted with the utmost rigor of the law,' which has a dreadful sound, whatever it may mean."

The young man laughed and shook his head. "I don't want to drive you away. I am glad to see you in my domain, so I will leave my mushrooms for all the world to steal. But how are you, Margaret, after your thrilling adventures?"

"Quite well, thank you, Donald, though I am afraid my father is still suffering from the shock."

Donald Mayhew nodded. "I can understand that. It must have been a very trying time. I read about it in the papers. Carston, it seems, played the part of hero."

He saw the shadow that crossed the girl's face as he spoke, and divined that, whatever Carston had done, Margaret was not pleased to be indebted to him.

"Yes," answered Margaret reluctantly, "he certainly saved my life."

Donald Mayhew looked at her closely, then he drew a bow at a venture. "You don't seem properly grateful, Margaret," he said, rallingly. "One would think that you were sorry that Carston saved you from a watery grave."

"Oh, of course, I'm grateful, but—"

"Ah! I understand," he cried, as she broke off. "Carston is not satisfied with gratitude. He wants something more. That is it, isn't it, Margaret?"

The quick flush that flooded her face told him that he had guessed the truth, and suddenly he took a step nearer, and laid a hand upon her arm. "Margaret," he said in a voice that was both urgent and earnest, "why won't you save yourself from all this kind of thing by marrying me? You know that I love you, that I've always loved you since I left school to go to Oxford. Oh, you must listen to me now, for there can be no treachery to the dead in telling you the truth. I know that you loved Noel, and that he loved you; and as I told you a year ago I should never have spoken if I were not quite sure that Noel is dead. He must be, after this long time. It is impossible that he can be alive now, or he would have communicated with you—with me. And since he is dead, I am entitled to speak, to plead my love, to ask you to——"

"No! No! Donald," interjected the girl, hoping to divert him from his purpose.

"I will not be turned aside, Margaret. I love you, and by right of my love I demand an answer. I know that I can never quite fill the place in your heart that Noel did; I know I can only be second best to you—if that; but Margaret, I love you utterly, completely, beyond any hope of redemption, even if I wished it, and I ask you to let my love speak for me. With you at Mayhew Court, Margaret, life would be like Paradise; without you the Court will be a barren heritage, and the savor will have died out of life. Margaret," he concluded fervently, "you simply must marry me."

For one moment Margaret felt moved by the appeal, and with John Carston looming in the background of her mind like the shadow of destiny, even suffered herself to consider it. She liked Donald Mayhew well. It was true, as he said, that he would be no more than second best, but if he were content— Such a marriage of quiet affection had more to be said for it than many marriages daily celebrated; whilst it would deliver her from Carston, whom her father openly favored. Her suitor caught the thoughtful, considering look upon her face, and believing that his words had weighed with her, that a little more pleading might win his cause, spoke again.

"Margaret, you must marry some day. You are too young and beautiful for spinsterhood. And Carston is not——"

"Oh, hush!" exclaimed Margaret in a whisper. "Here comes Mr. Carston himself."

It was quite true. Carston was walking along the hedge with a double-barrelled gun in the crook of his arm, and how long he had been aware of them standing there Margaret could only guess. She moved quickly, freeing her arm, and as she did so, caught a look of chagrin on her companion's face.

"Confound the man!" echoed Donald Mayhew, in a low voice.

Margaret smiled a little at his impatience, but the next moment the smile died as she caught Carston's eyes fixed upon her with something in their depths that somehow made her feel apprehensive of trouble to come.

"Good morning, Miss Margaret," said Carston affably. "Morning, Mayhew!" Then he looked at the girl's basket and smiled. "I see you've been hunting and have had better luck than I have! I was just cutting home across these fields of yours, Mayhew, when I caught sight of Miss Margaret, and as I have a message for her father I have ventured to break into your little tete-a-tete. I hope you will pardon my doing so."

"Yes!" answered Mayhew, in a tone that was far from affable.

Carston smiled a little grimly, and then stood without speaking for a short time. He looked at Margaret who was conscious of acute embarrassment, and then he glanced at the younger man, who still stood his ground.

"I'm afraid the message is a private one," he said, suggestively. "Do you mind?"

An angry flush came on Donald Mayhew's face. "Of course not," he said sharply. "I was forgetting. I will wait for you on the other side of the stile, Margaret."

"No, Donald, please do not wait."

"But I shall," said the young man, determinedly. John Carston watched him go, and then he laughed abruptly.

"A very amateurish young man, Miss Margaret." Margaret flushed a little, and with an effort checked the more indignant protest that came to her lips.

"A very good friend of mine, Mr. Carston," she said rebukingly.

"Only that?" he asked meaningly. "Just now when I saw you standing together I should have said that there was something more than friendship involved. But of course——"

Margaret's face flamed with indignation at the man's impertinence, but still she restrained herself and broke in frostily, "You said you had a message for my father?"

"So I have," he answered easily, "but before I confide it to you I have some words that are for your private ear, and——"

"I do not want to hear them," asserted the girl, thinking she knew what was coming.

"But I think you will when you know that they concern that young gentleman behind the hedge there, and his brother, Noel."

"Noel? What do you know of Noel Mayhew?" Margaret asked quickly.

"I know that he was reported missing, of course, and that for a long time he has been presumed to be dead, and that his brother reigns here in his place, which was just what he meant to do by fair means or foul."

Margaret looked at him with startled eyes. "You are hinting—you are throwing suspicion on Donald—"

"There is no need to hint, or to throw suspicion; facts are facts, though for the most part they may be hidden."

The startled look in Margaret's eyes grew more pronounced.

"What do you mean?" she asked quickly. "Please speak plainly, Mr. Carston."

Carston considered a moment, then he said, "Understand, I should have held my tongue if it had not been that that very clever young man beyond the stile there was obviously in love with you. Any man may be tempted, and in a weak moment may yield, and I am by nature charitable." He gave an abrupt laugh as he made the statement, then he asked, "Tell me, have I got the facts right? If Noel Mayhew had lived he would have been master of Mayhew Court?"

"Yes," answered Margaret, staring at him with burning eyes.

"And his death being presumed Donald takes the spoil?"

"If you mean that he has inherited the estate. Yes."

"I do mean that," said Carston, "and I take off my hat to that clever young man over there, who has managed the thing so nicely."

"Managed——"

"Miss Margaret, you were interested in Noel Mayhew, I know, your father being my informant. Do you know how he died?"

"I know what was reported," answered Margaret, in a low voice. "That he was out with a party of native levies, in German East Africa, that the party was ambushed and died to a man, but that Noel's body was never found, which encouraged me to hope that—that—"

"That he was alive? A vain hope, Miss Margaret. You do not know the African bush, or you would not entertain the hope for a single moment. I do not think there is any question of Noel Mayhew's death, but there is—well, some question of the way in which he died."

Margaret looked at him in wonder, and then looked beyond him to where, on the other side of the hedge, Donald Mayhew was pacing to and fro. Carston noticed the direction of her glance, and then frowned a little. "I know something of what happened," he continued, "for I was in German East Africa myself, and I was one of the particular party which, setting out to help Noel Mayhew, arrived only in time to drive away the jackals from the dead. But we found something which made some of us wonder; and that was certain messages which had been sent out by heliograph asking for relief to be sent speedily. Others besides ourselves had had those messages. Donald Mayhew, for instance."

"Donald!"

"Yes, he was at least half a day's march nearer than we were. He had got the message—and sent a reply. It was all found there. But he never came—"

"He never came! You mean he left Noel to die?"

"Well, there was a court martial at which he managed to exonerate himself, but he concealed material facts, as, for instance, that he was the heir to Mayhew Court, in the event of his brother's death. The members of the court martial never knew that. If they had——"

"Oh, shame—shame!" cried the girl. "You suggest that Donald left his brother to die, virtually murdered him! I will never believe it, never."

(To be continued.)

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Johnny had done those things that he ought not to have done and, being wise in his generation, had placed a book in the seat of his trousers before proceeding to the front of the class for punishment. "Now," said his teacher, "you and I are going to do a little performance together." "Yes, sir," said John, "and I have booked my seat."

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THE COBBERS' CLUB

CONDUCTED BY UNCLE PHIL.

Dear Cobbers,—I have a sad thing to tell you. My galah died on Tuesday night. She has been moping for some time, and when I got home on Wednesday evening I found her dead in her cage. I'm very sorry to lose her, but she didn't seem able to live without a mate, and I couldn't get her one.

Jacko has been feeling the cold at the last week-end. We have had fires and he has been sitting curled up on the hearthrug. But the fire is too much tentation. When he sees a particularly red coal drop, he always wants to put his hand in to see about it. Once he was nearly burnt, but I just saved him in time.

How do you like school again after all these holidays? Did you have a holiday on Monday?

How are David and Kelvin Bensley getting on? I haven't been to see them since they got to be long boys.

No more news now, Cobbers. Love from

UNCLE PHIL AND JACKO.

P.S.—How many of you are entering for Jacko's competition. He is very disgusted with it. I hope more of you will write before the time is up.—U.P.

P.P.S.—Welcome to Marjorie Williams, a new girl Cobber. Send in some contributions, Marjorie.—U.P.

Birthday Greetings to Cobbers.

Many happy returns of the day to Betty Ryan (Jan. 31), Douglas Hopwood (Feb. 1) and Lottie Le Blanc (Feb. 4).

NEW COMPETITION.

Write about what happened on Christmas Day and send to Uncle Phil's Office, "The Leader," 304 High street, Northcote. I will also compete. Who is going to compete? The competition closes on February 12, 1927.—Jacko.

ANSWERS TO LETTERS.

Harry Schell.—I'm very pleased to hear from you, Harry. How have you spent your holidays? Are you entering for the Xmas Day competition?

Leslie Beecher.—Please don't write on both sides of the paper, Les. I shall have to copy one side out again. Have you had a jolly holiday? Alan Angus.—I didn't know natives shaved, so I have learnt something. I wonder how you have a lovely time at Palm Beach. I have received your essay. We will have very success with your scholarship.

Ron Stone.—Isn't Mordialloc a lovely place to go for a holiday? Are you writing an essay about Xmas Day? Any other subjects?

Gordon Bardwell.—What a lovely story, Gordon. It isn't too long and I'm glad you made up yourself. You are all well except the galah. Write again soon.

Marjorie Williams.—Welcome to the club, Marj. I haven't heard from your teacher for a long time. I will like to write to me and will you send in something for the club.

Phyllis and Jean Murray.—Glad to hear from you again. How have you enjoyed your holidays? You are writing an essay about Christmas Day.

Florrie Cameron.—I am using some of your contribs. It is nice to hear from old Cobbers again. Are you entering for the Xmas Day competition?

Betty Ryan.—You must have had a lovely outing on Boxing Day. Did you take any snaps? Fancy, didn't anything out of the pudding. Love from Jacko. Write again soon.

COBBERS' WRITINGS.

THE FAIRY LIFE-SAVING CLUB.

It happened that in the early morning, the day the Queen of the fairies, whose name was Silverleaf, called her subjects together to discuss the forming of a Fairy Life Saving Club. Recently a man had been drowned whilst bathing in the sea just off the coast of Golden Town, and as there were no life-saving clubs on Golden Town beach, the Queen of the fairies thought it a good idea to form one. All the fairies lived down near the sea, and consequently they were all good swimmers.

The meeting was arranged for a certain night, and when that night came all the fairies were there. Silverleaf was in the chair, and when everyone was ready she stood up and commenced putting forth her suggestion. "I have a good idea which I think everyone will like," the Queen began. "My suggestion is that, as there are no life-saving clubs on Golden Town beach, we form a Fairy Life-saving Club." Every fairy thought this a very good idea, and the next morning Silverleaf picked out the six best swimmers. She was made the leader of the club, and she, with the other six fairies, enrolled quite a strong and reliable club. Each morning the seven fairies went in for a swim, and the whole day they would sit on the beach and watch in case anyone would need help.

One day, as Silverleaf and her six fairy companions were sitting quietly on the beach, they saw a man go in to bathe. They took no more notice of him until presently they heard his wild and frantic cries "Help! Help!" The seven fairies at once jumped up and began to rescue the man, and the six fairies took the end of the line and swam out to the man, tying it around his waist, while Silverleaf brought the handle of the reel, and brought the man back to the beach. The Queen then applied the method of resuscitation upon the man, and, in a very short time he was back to consciousness again.

Weeks and weeks passed, until at last the end of the year was drawing near, and the club had saved many people from drowning. A public meeting was arranged on December 30, and on that night a great crowd of people gathered. No one knew what the meeting was for until the chairman stood up and began speaking. "I have a very pleasing duty to perform this evening. I suppose you all know that our Fairy Life Saving Club has saved 20 people's lives, and we are going to present them each with a gold medal and the Queen, who is the leader of the club, a fountain pen besides a gold medal." Cheers rang out all over the hall. Then the prizes were presented to the seven brave fairies, and, after that, the fairy club still continued in their good work.

They ever afterwards everybody loved and cared for the members of the Fairy Life Saving Club.

(BEST.) Gordon H. Bardwell.

A LESSON I HAVE LEARNT.

I help my mother washing days,
When I'm at home, for so
I'll learn to manage for myself,
Should she be ill, you know.

We put the clothes to soak awhile,
It loosens dirt a lot,
And then I light the copper fire
To get the water hot.

We start to wash the flannels first,
The white things next; but mind,
All colored things keep quite apart,
Some colors run, you'll find.

When clothes are washed, they must, of course,
Be rinsed through once or twice,
And then they must be boiled and bleed,
Or they will not look nice.

Unless it's wet, we hang the clothes
Out in the air to dry,
And then we fold and mangle them
For ironing bye and bye.

Then when the ironing's done, the clothes
Are aired and put away.
When mother does it all, she must
Feel tired on washing day.

(BETTER.) Edna Lynch.

MY GARDEN.

I love my little garden,
With its roses and its phlox.
Its daisies and its violets;
Its larkspur and its stocks.

With the dew upon the flowers,
It is wondrous fair to see.
But when the day is fading
It is fairer still to me.

I sit there in the evening
When the sun is sinking low,
The scent of flowers around me
In the sunset's ruddy glow.

And when the night has fallen
And into bed I creep,
The flowers fold their petals
And quietly fall asleep.

(GOOD.) P. and J. Murray.

THE DOLLIES' WASHING DAY.

The sun is warm on the meadow grass,
The breeze is blowing from far away,
And over the sky the white clouds pass—
We would not wish for a better day.

Bring out the dollies and lay them down;
Bring plenty of water in the can.
Petticoat, pinafore, frock and gown
All must go in the washing pan.

(GOOD.) Myra Whipp.

JOHNNIE'S BOOTS.

I'd like to be a little shrimp,
And live beneath the sea.
Then I could swim and splash about
As happy as could be.

For little shrimps have many feet,
But don't wear boots, you see;
And lacing boots is just the thing
That always bothers me!

(GOOD.) Doris Lewis.

THE BOY STOOD.

The boy stood on the burning roof,
Where he for life had fled.
The building being quite fire-proof,
The flames were palsied red.

"Jump," pulled the crazed crowd.
"Jump, buddy, from the ridge!"
"I can't," he, dazzling, shrieked aloud.
"This ain't no Brooklyn Bridge."

Huge tongues of flame as hot as hot
Came darting out like mad,
And commenced to "lick" that noble boy.
As if they were his dad.

The firemen tried in and despair
That foolish boy to save.
Alas! no stream could reach him there,
And he began to smoke.

Then came a voice of thunder sound,
From one cool head below.
"If I save you, boy, unless you're drowned;
Jump when I say 'Go.'"

Then snatching up a hose, he aimed
A mighty stream on high.
"Jump on that water," he exclaimed,
"And grab it tight, or die!"

Hurrah! with one terrific scream
Out jumped that little kid,
And, grabbing on that solid stream,
Safe to the ground he slid.

(GOOD.) Leslie Beecher.

ODDS AND ENDS TO DO.

NOVEL WAY TO CUT HAIR.

In some parts of the interior of Africa, the natives cut one another's hair with a piece of sharpened glass, and the perfection of the "barber" as a work is most novel. A native boy shaves everyone excepting in removing the wool from his companions' head. As soon as he is finished, the barber is received by the boy's mates usually cut each other's hair. Similarity in shape and size counts with the broken glass. The edge is almost as keen as that of a razor, but not so smooth. However, it answers the purpose very well, and some natives who have had the opportunity to shave with trade razors prefer the broken glass.

(GOOD.) A. Angus.

PUZZLES.

A vowel; a girl's name; behold; happily; to treat in; milk facility; ill use; to perform; a vowel.

A N N
A F T E R
H E R E I N
I N T R O D U C E
R E A D I L Y
H A V E
A C T
E

(GOOD.) Florrie Cameron.

Girl's name; part of the verb "to be;" opposite to No.

M A Y
A R E
Y E S

(GOOD.) Cyril McCoubrie.

A chimpanzee surface; pitched tarpaulin covering; devours.

A P E
A R E A
T E N T
A T E

A small stride; to relate; other; an apology.

S T E P
T E L L
A T E
P L E A

(GOOD.) Harley Bardwell.

Something hot; Indian God; to turn over; the plural of one yard and one quarter.

P I
I D O L
R O L L
E L S

(GOOD.) F. Johnston.

Boy's name; capable; cut off; unbridled.

J A C K
A B L E
C U T
K E P T

A well known uncle; like a rabbit; a metal; a church canon.

P H I L
H A R E
I R O N
L E N T

(GOOD.) Aubrey Singleton.

Upright pole of a ship; open; girl's name; a vehicle.

M A S T
A J A R
S A R A
A H

I'm a lady; behead me and I'm a girl's name; behead me I'm a wooden pole; again and I'm part of the verb "to be."

Answer— Madam, Adam, dam, am.

(GOOD.) Harry Scolio.

BEHEADED WORDS.

Cereal; bad; direct; preposition.

Answer—Wheat, heat, eat, at.

Something to reflect; young girl; animal; bias.

Answer—Glass, lass, ass, as.

Used at the table; not early; past tense of eat.

Plate, late, ate.

(GOOD.) Lorna Lynch.

INTERESTING MULTIPLICATION.

Multiply 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 by any multiple of nine, and the answer will all be the same figure. Thus—Multiply it by 9 and the answer will be all ones; by 27 (three times) and it will be all threes; by 63 it will be all sevens, and so on for any figure.

(GOOD.) Sid Singleton.

A RIDDLE-ME-REE.

My first is in Jacko, but not in George,
My second is in Gilby, but not in Forge,
My third is in children, but not in men
My fourth is in Kate, but not in Gwen,
My fifth is in cow, but not in calf,
My whole is a pet who makes Uncle Phil laugh.
Answer—Jacko. Sid Singleton.

My first is in Jacko, but not in Phil,
My second is in Olive, but not in Bill,
My third is in cupboard, and also in box,
My fourth is in ball, but not in fox,
My fifth is in Bluebell, and also in bo;
My sixth is in lovely, and also in well;
My seventh is in salt, but not in pepper,
My eighth is in cat, but not in coo,
My ninth is in lovely, and also in wall;
My tenth is in tub, but not in ball,
My eleventh's in baby, and also in rub,
And all put together, they spell Cobbers' club.

(GOOD.) Florrie Cameron.

FUN BOX.

While away at a Canadian Life Saving Scouts' camp, a well meaning patrol leader wrote to his next door neighbor as follows:—"Dear Mr. Brown—Will you do me a favor? Will I am away; / Will you put out a little food on our doorstep each day for a few days? I've been looking after the dog will eat anything, but please do not put yourself out."

(GOOD.) Edna Lynch.

Put (crawling) to meet Mike)—"Now, if I set there now I'll chalk a egg on the fence." Mike—"Oh, yes, and if I arrive first I'll rub it out."

Tongue Twisters.—Fifty fidgety fledged fieldings fairly fluttering.

A messenger inoculated he managed to insalivary menagerie.

(GOOD.) Phyllis Murray.

Hits Job.—How are you getting on at your job, Bill?" "Fine; I've got 25 men under me now." "Really?" "Yes, I work upstairs."

(GOOD.) D. Bensley.

"You must find that impediment in your speech rather inconvenient at times, Mr. Stutter." "Oh, n-no. Everybody has his little p—p—peculiarities—ei—stammering is mine. W—what is yours?" "Well, really, I don't know—we—well, I can't say I've ever noticed. Most people use a tea spoon."

(GOOD.) Harley Bardwell.

Had Missed It.—"What are you crying for, my poor little boy?" said the man to a crying boy. "I fell down and broke my—my—my—I'm fit weak," sobbed the boy. "Don't take on so, my boy. He'll get better soon." "That isn't it; I shot me last fill all the way; I never saw nuffin."

(GOOD.) Betty Ryan.

Mick's Definition.—"Now," said the teacher of a village school in Ireland, at the close of her long lesson on elementary science, "I want someone to give me a good definition on salt." "Shure," said Mickey, "it's the stuff that's put on potatoes when they're dressed."

No asked when those were going to be married, Miller said: "My intention was to get married in June, but I have to wait for the Derby."

(GOOD.) A. Angus.

Cauchi and Howlett.—The occasion caused a lady to become tender hearted, and presented each competitor with a shilling. Do you remember, Jack, that it was a cricket match, and amid such surroundings it was difficult for you proposed to me? You were bowled out." "Yes, Gertie," snapped the bubby. "Caught."

(GOOD.) Cyril McCoubrie.

GUESSINGS.

When do two and two make more than four?—When they make 22.

What part of a house suffers?—Windows, because they are full of panes.

What keeps the moon in place?—The beams.

(GOOD.) F. Johnston.

Two brothers are we; great burden we bear,
By which we are heavily pressed.
We are full all day to endure wear and tear,
But empty when able to rest.

Answer—A pair of shoes.

(GOOD.) Ron Stone.

What is that which must be taken from you before you get it?—Your portrait.

What is the most irritating thing you can do to a farmer?—Tread on his corn.

Why are troubles like babies?—Because they grow bigger as they nurse.

Why are crows the most sensible birds?—Because they never complain about corn.

Why are religious communities like bees?—Because they are fond of swarms.

(GOOD.) Violet Wh-pp.

The Adventures of Good Gwenny and Naughty Nancy.

Gwen and Nan set out from the farmer's house one bright spring morning. The sun was shining overhead and the fields were lush and green, with yellow patches of buttercups and dandelions. The wattle was in full bloom on the trees, and all the world looked yellow and green. Mrs. Brown gave them a packet of sandwiches, and some money and off they set. They trudged up the road and down along with hand in hand, their heels seemed to be singing, as if presently they too would begin to sing aloud. The first landmark they came to was a rickety old gate, with large boulders and rocks.

Eaton, Gwen's favorite friend ahead of the other members of the party, was the first to climb up on the gate, and he stood on a rock in the middle of the stream within a few feet of the gate, and cried "Hullo!" The only person who saw him fait was Gwen, and after the visitor's name, name is believed to be Dinsdale, a poet at Kitchener House. This man, as he is sometimes called, when only a few feet from Eaton, when he saw Gwen, he gave a terrific leap and disappeared over the edge of the fall. The man immediately informed Eaton's party, and they hurried to the fall. Some search. Making their way to the side of the fall, they found Gwen, however, to obtain a view of the pool below, which Eaton had fallen, at the bottom of the fall. Gwen was there, which is about six feet deep and 70 feet in circumference. She was drowned and drifted. The only part of Eaton that could be seen was an elbow, which was protruding above the piece of timber.

Helpers' Perilous Task.

As the pool was inaccessible from either side, Eaton's father decided to seek assistance, and word was sent to Marysville. Mr. Smith, Mr. Brown, Mr. Frank Hatton, Constable Ware and Constable Hall, all of Marysville, were soon on the scene. Mr. Smith, who was a member of the Life Saving Club, and Mr. Brown, who was a member of the Fire Brigade, were able to fix the ropes to the trees, and Mr. Hatton

STOTT SON & WATSON

NORTHCOTE'S OLDEST ESTABLISHED AUCTIONEER, ESTATE AND INSURANCE AGENTS.

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Branches—HIGH ST., THORNBURY, Cnr. Dundas Street.
HIGH ST., PRESTON, opposite Post Office.
RAILWAY PLACE, FAIRFIELD, opposite Station.
Phones—Northcote 534-635.

CITY OF NORTHCOTE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1915.

LOAN NO. 19.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ORDER FOR BORROWING MONEY.

NOTICE is hereby given that at a Meeting of the Council of the City of Northcote, held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Northcote, on the 24th day of January, 1927, the said Council did agree to the following resolution, that is to say—

(a) That this Council do, by Special Order in order to carry out the works and undertakings on the plans, specifications, and estimates of cost of the said works and undertakings prepared by the officers of the council, and adopted by the council on the 1st day of November, 1926, resolve to borrow the sum of Fifty-seven Thousand Pounds (£57,000) by the issue of Forty Debentures of—

Twenty-Payable 1st October, 1927 .. £738 13 0
Two-Payable 1st April, 1928 .. .. 810 16 7
Three-Payable 1st October, 1928 .. 833 12 3
Four-Payable 1st April, 1929 .. .. 857 1 7
Five-Payable 1st October, 1929 .. 881 3 8
Six-Payable 1st April, 1930 .. .. 904 11 7
Seven-Payable 1st October, 1930 .. 931 8 11
Eight-Payable 1st April, 1931 .. .. 957 12 11
Nine-Payable 1st October, 1931 .. 984 11 7
Ten-Payable 1st April, 1932 .. .. 1012 5 5
Eleven-Payable 1st October, 1932 .. 1040 14 10
Twelve-Payable 1st April, 1933 .. 1070 0 2
Thirteen-Payable 1st October, 1933 .. 1100 0 1
Fourteen-Payable 1st April, 1934 .. 1131 0 11
Fifteen-Payable 1st October, 1934 .. 1162 17 1
Sixteen-Payable 1st April, 1935 .. 1195 11 2
Seventeen-Payable 1st October, 1935 .. 1229 3 9
Eighteen-Payable 1st April, 1936 .. 1263 15 2
Nineteen-Payable 1st October, 1936 .. 1299 6 0
Twenty-Payable 1st April, 1937 .. 1335 16 11
Twenty-one-Payable 1st October, 1937 .. 1373 3 4
Twenty-two-Payable 1st April, 1938 .. 1412 0 10
Twenty-three-Payable 1st October, 1938 .. 1451 15 1
Twenty-four-Payable 1st April, 1939 .. 1492 11 9
Twenty-five-Payable 1st October, 1939 .. 1534 11 4
Twenty-six-Payable 1st April, 1940 .. 1577 14 0
Twenty-seven-Payable 1st October, 1940 .. 1622 1 11
Twenty-eight-Payable 1st April, 1941 .. 1667 12 5
Twenty-nine-Payable 1st October, 1941 .. 1714 12 12
Thirty-Payable 1st April, 1942 .. .. 1762 16 11
Thirty-one-Payable 1st October, 1942 .. 1812 8 7
Thirty-two-Payable 1st April, 1943 .. 1863 6 5
Thirty-three-Payable 1st October, 1943 .. 1916 16 3
Thirty-four-Payable 1st April, 1944 .. 1969 13 10
Thirty-five-Payable 1st October, 1944 .. 2025 1 10
Thirty-six-Payable 1st April, 1945 .. 2082 0 11
Thirty-seven-Payable 1st October, 1945 .. 2140 12 1
Thirty-eight-Payable 1st April, 1946 .. 2200 16 2
Thirty-nine-Payable 1st October, 1946 .. 2262 14 1
Forty-Payable 1st April, 1947 .. .. 2326 6 11

respectively, bearing interest at the rate of Five Pounds Twelve Shillings and Sixpence (£5/12/6) per centum per annum upon the credit of the moneys raised and charged upon the Security of the Municipal Fund of the Mayor, Councillors and Citizens of the City of Northcote, and to be repayable half-yearly in the manner set out in the notice published in the "Government Gazette" of the Third day of November, 1926, and the Northcote "Leader" of the Sixth and the Thirteenth day of November, 1926.

Notice is hereby further given that a Meeting of the said Council will be held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Northcote on Monday, the 21st day of February, 1927, at 7.30 o'clock in the evening, when the resolution set out above will be submitted for confirmation.

Dated this 26th day of January, 1927.

J. A. THOMSON,
Town Clerk.

NORTHCOTE THEATRE

Friday and Saturday, February 4th and 5th

"The Show Off"
(Fred Sterling)

"The Happy Warrior"

Moving Picture shown on Screen of 5th Heat

MISS NORTHCOTE COMPETITION

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, February 7, 8 and 9

"The Barrier"
By Rex Beach.

"The Fighting Edge"

Personal Appearance Competition on 9th Heat

MISS NORTHCOTE COMPETITION

Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, February 10, 11, 12

"Fascinating Youth"
and
"The Danger Girl"

Moving Pictures on Screen in 5th Heat

MISS NORTHCOTE COMPETITION

THE LEADER

Published Every Friday Morning.

JUSTICE TO ALL.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1927.

ITEMS OF NEWS.

At Preston court on Thursday a number of women were fined for failing to destroy sweet briar and other noxious weeds on vacant allotments in Preston.

The fortnightly meeting of the Northcote branch A.N.A. was held on January 25. The financial statement was submitted by the auditors, and was formally received and adopted. The financial position is very satisfactory. A discussion took place in connection with a dinner to members, and it was decided members to take a greater interest in the work of the association, and attend the meetings more regularly. This matter is to be discussed at future meetings, and a full attendance will be welcomed as to the best means of attaining this end. Two bowls matches were played against the Collingwood team, resulting in a win and a loss.

At the recent musical examinations in the following centres, the Preston Methodist Church choir was successful:—Melbourne University—Grade III., piano, J. Quiller, credit. Grade IV., credit, M. Ewers (81). Grade V (honours), A. O'Connor (84). Grade VI., (honours), Grace Vi., credit; J. Saunder, H. Smart is the youngest child to pass Grade VI., being only 11 years (and six years). Grade III., harmony—Gerald J. Quiller, honours. Clarence E. Hooper, A.L.C.M., J. Quiller, A.L.C.M. Primary piano, first class, M. Telfer. Junior Piano, first class, D. Hart. Tuition resumed on February 7, at 146 Beaver's road, Northcote.

RETURN THANKS.

BAILEY (Ex-Cr.).—Mrs. R. Bailey and family, Mr. E. Bailey and Miss Bailey desire to express their SINCERE THANKS to relatives, friends and neighbors for letters, cards, telegrams, floral tributes, and personal expressions of sympathy in the sad bereavement; also thanking Dr. Callander for his kind attention. Please accept this as a personal acknowledgment of our deepest gratitude, as it is impossible to answer all communications.—29 Barry St., Northcote.

The Leader

Published Every Friday Morning.

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STATE ELECTIONS

NATIONALIST CANDIDATE FOR JIKA JIKA

We understand that Mr. W. S. Neelands, of Northcote, has been approached to stand in the Nationalist interest for the seat of Jika Jika. Mr. Neelands is still considering the request, and is assured of strong support should he come forward.

Being a returned soldier, he is also sure of strong support in this direction.

THE HEIDELBERG SEAT.

MEETING OF LADIES AT RESERVOIR.

On Wednesday evening a meeting of Reservoir ladies was held in connection with the candidature of Mr. H. P. Zwar, selected Nationalist candidate, at the Church of England Hall, Byfield street, Reservoir. There was a fair attendance, despite the windy and dusty day. The committee was formed, with Mrs. J. G. Thrower president, and Mrs. Ford secretary. Mr. Zwar addressed the meeting.

The following returning officers have been appointed for the forthcoming elections:—

Clifton Hill—J. J. Denton, 151 McKean street, North Fitzroy.

Heidelberg—C. T. Critchley, Sontenbay street, Preston.

Northcote—Percy F. Glanville, 23 James street, Northcote.

ACCIDENT AT PRESTON.

LORRY PASSES OVER MAN.

At about 9 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon Mr. Godfrey Radcliffe, Wallace street, Preston, was driving a two-horse lorry along Bell street, Preston, when one of the swingle bars broke. Mr. Radcliffe was thrown on to the ground, and one of the horses plunged. From the pole he fell to the off rear-way, and the two wheels of the lorry, which was heavily laden with poles, passed over his legs. One leg was fractured, and both, it is said, had been milked that morning. He did not run over his milk, as he wanted to serve it fresh.

Defendant—I have been in the trade, both wholesale and retail, for 14 years, and I have never been in a court before.

Mr. W. G. Smith, P.M.—That is certainly a very good record.

The P.M. said the case appeared to be a regulation concerning the coolling of milk. The milk was the first of this class of case that had come before him.

Defendant was fined 10/- on each charge.

PRESTON POLICE COURT

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3.

Before Mr. W. G. Smith, P.M., and Messrs. J. T. Ellison and E. Lewis, J's.P.

No Light.

Alfred Ernest Renfrew, Arnold street, East Brunswick, was charged with having driven a motor cycle in High street, Preston, on December 12 without adequate head lights. A fine of 10/- was imposed.

Milk Prosecution.

James Riordan, High street, Preston, was charged that on November 4 was guilty of an offence against the Milk Supply Act 1922, in that he sold milk that was above the temperature of 60 deg. Fahrenheit, contrary to the provisions of regulation 4.

There was a second charge against Riordan that between November 3 and 11 he stored milk for sale, the same not having been efficiently cooled to a temperature below 40 deg. Fahrenheit, contrary to regulations.

Mr. J. W. Beckwith prosecuted for the Department of Agriculture

Percy H. Fisher, dairy supervisor, said that defendant was a licensed dairyman. On November 4 witness visited defendant's premises. He took the temperature of milk in defendant's ice chest and it was 62 deg. On November 10 witness went to defendant's dairy and again took the temperature of the milk. It was found to be 62 deg. again. Witness went to Preston to see if there was anyone selling milk. Witness tested the milk and found the temperature was 65 deg. Defendant admitted that he had not been brine cooling his milk.

To Defendant—You ought to have been brine cooled immediately it was received, irrespective of how old the milk was.

Riordan said the milk had been brought in that night, and he had not put it in ice. He took out a hand can of the milk to serve customers. The milk was perfectly fresh, and he had been milked that morning. He did not think his milk, as he wanted to serve it fresh.

Defendant—I have been in the trade, both wholesale and retail, for 14 years, and I have never been in a court before.

Mr. W. G. Smith, P.M.—That is certainly a very good record.

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OVER £100 IN PRIZES.

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£15 will be given to the winners of each grade, and £5 to the runners-up. A shield will be given for the open age, donated by Mr. H. V. Peterson, Coburg, and produce to the value of £10 promised by Walters' stores, Coburg, and Burke's Stores, Sydney road, Coburg. Trophies have also been received for the best and fairest player in each grade, valued at over £100 has been allotted to the competition—£50 for the senior effort, for a junior competition. This association will have no run on very strict lines. An incorporation, and a football team in the said rules, is that this association has been given to enquire the power to order the services of a player for the full season's term of the rules. Full particulars and entry forms may be obtained from the hon. secretary, Mr. E. Haverfield, Bent street, Coburg.

Owing to increased business and in order to cope with the firm's substantial list of forthcoming sales by public auction, Mr. R. J. Hobson, of the well known firm of James and Hobson, 119 High street, Westgarth, has taken out an auctioneer's license. The first sale conducted under the firm's style of supervision takes place on February 19, when three blocks and adjoining the Glenhuntly railway station will be submitted without reserve. This and is recommended by the firm to all builders and investors."

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Supporting this fine picture will be seen the Paramount Junior stars, including Tom Kelghan, Lila Lee, Adolphe Menjou, Richard Dix and Jack Holt, who have flashed into prominence by the silver sheet, by the medium of the Paramount Organization, in their own week's programme. On day entitled "Fascinatin' Youth," and "The Danger Girl" are to be seen, and a treat in store in the shape of motion pictures stars than this? We think not.

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The Premier Four have made a triumphant appearance last week at the Regent this week, and made many friends thereby. The enthusiastic manner in which the audience has responded two and three extra numbers after each item, and is a tribute to the organisee to replace them with more worthy and enthusiastic citizens.

I think it is a big mistake to allow the association to "wind up," and I sincerely hope that at the next meeting it will be decided to "carry on."—Yours, etc.,

SEMLOH.

NORTHCOTE THEATRE.

Pictures as advertised elsewhere.

The following are the entrants for the fifth heat of the Miss Northcote competition:—

Alma Becker, Stella Eastaway, Ina Pearce, Melba Jenkins, Freda Annan, Ethel Mason, Mary Blake, Pearl Hay, Dolecia Curcius, Dorothy Ryan, Nance McMahon.

BOWLING.

NORTHCOTE CLUB.

A hearty welcome is always assured metropolitan bowlers when they visit Northcote green. This was particularly noticeable last Saturday, when several risks of the Northcote Bowling Club motored to Barclay Marsh and had a most enjoyable game against the local club. Considering the dryness of the season, the green was well trimmed and played excellently. After a most interesting game the visitors' team were victorious, two rinks being left in, one winning and the other a few down. Afternoon tea was generously provided by the ladies, proved a welcome refreshment to the Northcote boys. Great was the variety of dainties provided. The president of Barclay Marsh had a rousing time. Northcote players, said they were always delighted to have visiting teams with them, and they endeavored always to give them a good time. President Craig, of the Northcote Club, made a speech, and in that breezy manner of his thanked for the hospitality shown to the Northcote bowlers, particularly thanking the ladies, and assured all of a hearty welcome on the Northcote green on their return match in March. Mr. P. Jones, veteran, humorous vein, supported the remarks in fitting manner. After doing justice to a good dinner at ten South Road hotel, followed by a sing song, it was time for home, and agreed it was a most enjoyable day's outing.

Hotel Visitor—"Er—chambermaid, I have lost a five pound note. Did you find one in my dressing-table, my good morning?" Chambermaid—"Yes, sir, And I thank you very kindly."

A fellow said to a famous sprinter: "I'll run and beat you if you'll let me choose the course and give me a yard start." "I'm pounds to one that you don't," said the sprinter confidently. "Name your course." "Up a ladder," replied the challenger.

CHURCH NEWS.

Church of the Epiphany.

Appropriate reference to the death of Dr. Lees, late Bishop of the Archbishop of Melbourne, was made by the vicar, Rev. T. Cole, at evensong in the Church of the Epiphany on Sunday. The text was the words of St. Paul: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith," 2nd Timothy, 4 ch., 7th verses. These words were also those written by the great apostle at the close of his life. He had accomplished many great tasks. He had looked upon his life as a prize fight that he had to win for his Master—a race that he had to run and be victorious—as a trustee of the faith that had to keep. As he was about to locate prizes his reward in striking a note of triumph. I have fought, I have run, I have kept the faith. Our thoughts were today on a memorable service, the vast of God, whose fight had also been a race won, and who looked in the life of our beloved Archbishop. Mrs. Lees was also remembered herself to all who had come to know and love her. Her work was a life of piety and devotion, and a life of unostentatious service, whom she had served for so many years. She was a faithful servant of Jesus Christ. While we lamented one of the most enjoyable functions ever held in connection with the church.

Baptist Church, Northcote.

Owing to the absence of the pastor of the Baptist Church the pulpit was occupied on both services on Sunday last by the Rev. Barrow, of South and McNicol. The pastor (the Rev Bonnington) is to return from his holidays this week, and is to be welcomed back by the members of the church and congregation at the morning service on Sunday next.

NORTHCOTE DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL.

GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS WON.

At the recent scholarship examinations held by the Education Department at the end of December last, and open to all schools in Victoria, scholarships were won by Stuart Proctor (now Old Scholar), twenty-fifth on the list, who gained four first places for Grade VI., and Ronald Gilmour, who gained four first places for Grade V., both under an average of 160 pupils. The scholarships are tenable for four years, and will enable the winners to try for senior scholarships. Their success is very gratifying, and is a credit to the school, particularly when the adverse conditions under which the school worked last year are considered. Scholarships given by the V.R.C. were won by two pupils of the school—Edna Taylor and Henry Cumming. These are of the value of £10 per year for four years, entitling the holder to free tuition at a High School. The school reopened last Tuesday, and 100 new pupils have been enrolled. It is a great pity, however, that the accommodation is not to hand, and they have been compelled to return home until such time as the buildings are fit to receive them.

THE LEADER FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1927 PAGE 5

NORTHCOTE COURT

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1.

Before Messrs. J. Macnamara, P.M., and Messrs. H. Evans, J. Sutch, A. H. Olds, J. Cohen, P. H. Mayer, and H. C. Dyte, J's.P.

"Too Much Animal Spirits."

Hector Gray was charged that on Northcote on January 25 he behaved in an offensive manner.

Defendant pleaded guilty.

Const. S. McFarlane said that defendant, with others was obstructing the footpath in High street. People had to pass on the roadway.

Defendant said that he did not behave offensively. As he walked out of a billiard saloon the constable arrested him.

The case was adjourned for six months.

The P.M. said:—"Apparently you have too much animal spirits. If you have any excessive energy go and chop some wood."

New Year Jokes.

Thomas Bateman, fireman; Cyril Williams, Parkview road, Alphington; John Duncan, Coma street, Alphington; and Alfred O'Loughlin, Parkview road, Alphington, were each charged with having behaved in an offensive manner on January 1.

All pleaded not guilty.

Const. B. Seeger, of the police patrol, said that about 4.15 a.m. on January 1 he went to Heidelberg road and saw the four defendants pushing a P.M.G.'s Department truck containing a broken tree guard, a ladder, and a fire notice. He went to investigate another complaint, and on returning found the truck set up against the door of an hotel and the "For Sale" notice put up as if for sale. Defendants did not bear brine coolling his milk.

Defendant—I have been in the trade, both wholesale and retail, for 14 years, and I have never been in a court before.

Mr. W. G. Smith, P.M.—That is certainly a very good record.

The P.M. said the case appeared to be a regulation concerning the coolling of milk. The milk was the first of this class of case that had come before him.

Defendant was fined 10/- on each charge.

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STATE ELECTIONS

NATIONALIST CANDIDATE FOR JIKA JIKA

We understand that Mr. W. S. Neelands, of Northcote, has been approached to stand in the Nationalist interest for the seat of Jika Jika. Mr. Neelands is still considering the request, and is assured of strong support should he come forward.

Being a returned soldier, he is also sure of strong support in this direction.

THE HEIDELBERG SEAT.

MEETING OF LADIES AT RESERVOIR.

On Wednesday evening a meeting of Reservoir ladies was held in connection with the candidature of Mr. H. P. Zwar, selected Nationalist candidate, at the Church of England Hall, Byfield street, Reservoir. There was a fair attendance, despite the windy and dusty day. The committee was formed, with Mrs. J. G. Thrower president, and Mrs. Ford secretary. Mr. Zwar addressed the meeting.

The following returning officers have been appointed for the forthcoming elections:—

Clifton Hill—J. J. Denton, 151 McKean street, North Fitzroy.

Heidelberg—C. T. Critchley, Sontenbay street, Preston.

Northcote—Percy F. Glanville, 23 James street, Northcote.

ACCIDENT AT PRESTON.

LORRY PASSES OVER MAN.

At about 9 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon Mr. Godfrey Radcliffe, Wallace street, Preston, was driving a two-horse lorry along Bell street, Preston, when one of the swingle bars broke. Mr. Radcliffe was thrown on to the ground, and one of the horses plunged. From the pole he fell to the off rear-way, and the two wheels of the lorry, which was heavily laden with poles, passed over his legs. One leg was fractured, and both, it is said, had been milked that morning. He did not run over his milk, as he wanted to serve it fresh.

Defendant—I have been in the trade, both wholesale and retail, for 14 years, and I have never been in a court before.

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PRESTON POLICE COURT

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3.

Before Mr. W. G. Smith, P.M., and Messrs. J. T. Ellison and E. Lewis, J's.P.

No Light.

Alfred Ernest Renfrew, Arnold street, East Brunswick, was charged with having driven a motor cycle in High street, Preston, on December 12 without adequate head lights. A fine of 10/- was imposed.

Milk Prosecution.

James Riordan, High street, Preston, was charged that on November 4 was guilty of an offence against the Milk Supply Act 1922, in that he sold milk that was above the temperature of 60 deg. Fahrenheit, contrary to the provisions of regulation 4.

There was a second charge against Riordan that between November 3 and 11 he stored milk for sale, the same not having been efficiently cooled to a temperature below 40 deg. Fahrenheit, contrary to regulations.

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To Defendant—You ought to have been brine cooled immediately it was received, irrespective of how old the milk was.

Riordan said the milk had been brought in that night, and he had not put it in ice. He took out a hand can of the milk to serve customers. The milk was perfectly fresh, and he had been milked that morning. He did not think his milk, as he wanted to serve it fresh.

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HEIDELBERG ROAD INCIDENT.

TRAVELLER FINED £10.

At Northcote court on Tuesday Frederick Tasman Triggs, traveller, Fawkner street, North Fitzroy, was charged that on Heidelberg road, Clifton Hill, on September 15, he drove a motor car in a manner dangerous to the public. There was a second charge of having refused to give his name after an accident.

Robert Thompson, civil servant, said that on September 15, at about 5.30 p.m. he was driving a motor car. He was stopped at the Heidelberg gates, when a single seated car crashed into the back of witness' car. Witness accosted defendant, who was the driver of the car, who refused to give his name and address. Witness' father also said: "I want your name and address." Defendant said: "You big mug, I'll have you on," and adopted a fighting attitude. Then he jumped into his car and drove away. Defendant appeared to have had a few drinks. The petrol tank on witness' car was battered and the oil in light was broken off.

James Thompson, his street, East Brunswick, tram employe, said he was in the car with his son when defendant crashed into their motor car. When witness got out defendant was looking at the damage. Witness asked defendant to give his name and address, but he refused to give it, and said "I won't give it to you. There's no name for Take that." The damage cost £5.

Cross-examined—Defendant did not say anything about the police being called. The man who was with defendant did not say anything about the police. He was in the car with his son when defendant crashed into their motor car. When witness got out defendant was looking at the damage. Witness asked defendant to give his name and address, but he refused to give it, and said "I won't give it to you. There's no name for you."

JOHN SHAW
LICENSED CONTRACTING PLUMBER,
ESTABLISHED 30 YEARS.
Cor. Windsor and Bathgo Sts., Northcote.
REAR NORTHCOTE THEATRE — Phone N'cote 96 — LATE ADDRESS HIGH ST.

TO THOSE ABOUT TO BUILD A HOME.
YOU WILL BE WISE TO ASK THESE QUESTIONS —
What will be the first cost of my home?
What will be the cost of insurance spread over 20 years?
What will be the cost of Painting spread over the 20 years?
What will be the cost of Upkeep spread over 20 years?
If Needs Be Further, will it Require Renovating, and What Will it Add to Or, Will I Build with materials that have stood the test of centuries?
And Furthermore these questions and we are sure you will decide to let the
STABILITY CONSTRUCTION CO
BEST STREET, PRESTON RESERVOIR.
Build that home for you, for our hopes lie— We Build For Ever
THE STABILITY CONSTRUCTION CO. stands for wonderful material, perfect workmanship, and Value Unsurpassed. It Will Pay You to Build for a Home that will owe you from the everlasting worry of Landlords, Rent Collectors, and Rising Rents. Call at Best Street, Preston, at a cost that compares favorably with Weatherboard Cottage. Fireproof Houses have a Century Value and Need no Paint to Prevent Fire, Frost, and Sever Frost. The cost is yourselves to see the manager for fuller particulars. Have a look round.
THE STABILITY CONSTRUCTION CO.
BEST ST., PRESTON. Phone—Northcote 176.
This is the Economic Age. "Wise Men Build with Cement.

CLARK'S FAMOUS BALANCED POULTRY FOODS.
CLARK, KING & CO.,
Can be obtained from the following Produce Merchants:
Clarke & Clarke, Ltd., Northcote; Cuthbertson & Symon, Ltd., Preston; A. E. Bostock, Fairey & Sons, Ltd., Croxton Park; Hall & Co., Ltd., Preston; Hall & Co., Ltd., Reservoir; H. T. Pollard and Sons Pty. Ltd., Preston; Reservoir; H. T. Pollard and Sons Pty. Ltd., Reservoir; H. T. Pollard and Sons Pty. Ltd., Reservoir; H. T. Pollard and Sons Pty. Ltd.,

PUBLIC NOTICE.

Walter A. Warne

UNDERTAKER.

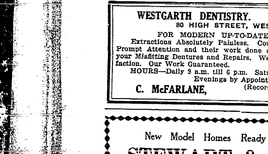
ESTABLISHED 1853

Wishes to notify the public of Preston and District that he has opened a branch at

259 HIGH STREET, PRESTON

(NEXT DALGETY STREET.)

FUNERALS CONDUCTED AT LOWEST POSSIBLE RATES.



A Standard of Purity.

The Bread we sell is made under conditions ensuring its perfect purity and a standard of excellence which no other bread offered to the public has attained.

Bread is such an important factor in your daily diet that it becomes you to purchase the best.

LET US SUPPLY YOU EVERY DAY

CALLANDER

THE BETTER BAKER.

Preston and Heidelberg.

Phones—Northcote 40. Heidelberg 69.

"ECONOMIST"

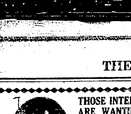
GAS COOKING STOVES

With Cast Iron Patent Casings and Porcelain Enamel Tray. Separate Oven and Roaster. Will Toast, Roast, Bake, Grill, etc. Fitted with Special Boiling Burner for Simmering. HEATS INSTANTLY AND WILL REDUCE GAS BILLS FULLY 10 PER CENT.

Also Manufacturers of Famous "Bobs," "Preston," "New Favorite" and "Unique" Cookers, Coal Vases, Coal Hods, and Wood Pixie.

WALLIS BROS. & CO., 419 Bourke St., Melbourne.

'Phone—Northcote 633. Factory—Cramer St., Preston.



THOSE INTER-STATE STATIONS ARE WANTING YOU.

Winter nights are coming. Sydney, Brisbane and Adelaide are wanting to entertain you with their delightful concerts—right at your own fireside.

Don't be content napping with a run down "B" battery.

See Brighton about a

"B" BATTERY ELIMINATOR

ON HIS EASY PAYMENT SYSTEM.

Call in today and see us. Batteries—Wireless and Car—are a PROPERTY. Charged on a most up-to-date plant. Batteries left before 9 a.m. can be had same day.

All Electrical Work carried out, and all Electrical Goods of best qualities stocked. Sole agent for Osram British Lamps.

E. W. BRIGHTON,

Electrical Engineer and Contractor.

597 HIGH STREET, THORNBURY

PHONE—NORTHCOTE 1844.

THE SEASON'S GREETINGS.

Once again, standing on the threshold of another year, we pause to review the past. At such a time we are conscious of a feeling of gratitude to you for the very real support you have given us during the past year. It has indeed been a perpetual source of encouragement to us to know that our best endeavors have earned your appreciation.

You may rest assured that our aim in the future will be to give you even better and better service. To that end we commit ourselves unreservedly.

We thank you very sincerely for your kind patronage, and take pleasure in wishing you a very bright and prosperous New Year.

C. S. LOW

LADIES' & GENTS' TAILORS. 371 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.

Factory and Office: 309 High St., Nvote. 'Phone—N'cote 46.

ARTISTIC NEW YEAR CALENDARS.

BOOK NOW FOR SEASON 1926.

With the approach of Christmas comes the holiday spirit—the same old feeling of giving small tokens of friendship, which has become stronger than ever as the years roll by.

Do not be looked upon as the tradesman who gives nothing—the mean man.

Why not give a gift which will also benefit your business—something that will be ever before the eye, and a means of advertising you?

Northcote Leader Specialty Printers

are makers of

HIGH-CLASS ART CALENDARS, BLOTTERS AND FANS.

To ensure prompt delivery and to secure the best samples, you are advised to book immediately for the coming season.

Watch for our representative,—and see he presents a card bearing above address.

ONE ADDRESS ONLY.

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'Phone—Northcote 1423.

NORMANBY HALL

Normanby Avenue, Thornbury.

Available for Weddings, Parties and Dances.

BELL'S HIGH-CLASS CATERING.

Silver and Linen from the Hall. Highest Satisfaction Guaranteed. Goods on Hire.

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CURIOUS CLOCKS.

A Frenchman who had been working on the one object for over 12 years past, recently perfected a clock which is, perhaps, one of the most marvellous of its kind.

The quarter hour chimes are rung by figures representing the four ages of life, while the figure of death strikes the hour. Each a divinity symbolising the particular day to which it is consecrated appears, and in the upper works may be seen a model of the earth revolving round the sun. Markings on the face of the clock also show the year, month, day, hour and second, together with all the signs of the zodiac.

Although this is indeed a marvellous piece of mechanism, it is not the only remarkable clock by any means. Not long ago, for instance, a New York engineer perfected a clock which is corrected daily by wireless waves sent specially for that purpose from Washington. It is self-winding, and besides telling the time it operates and controls any number of secondary clocks.

Such a clock, it is hoped, will make it possible for the first time in history, to synchronise all time-pieces throughout the country by means of a clock.

Another hardly less wonderful clock is to be seen in London, at Waterloo Station, where there is a clock with four dials and one set visible works. It is operated by electricity, controlled by a self-winding electric master clock, whose electrical clocks are now in general use on the London Underground system and in other parts of the country.

Some years ago the ill-fated Czar of Russia, having had many tales of the inventive genius of a Polish mechanic, sent him a parcel of copper nails, wood chips, broken glass and crockery, a length of wire, and four pairs of tweezer pens, and with this mixed lot commanded him to make a clock. The clock arrived in due course and was entirely satisfactory.

At Wick a barber's assistant is another to go to remarkable lengths. Made in 1320 by a monk named Peter Lightfoot, it has models of more of the celestial and terrestrial bodies, and indicates the hours, minutes, days, dates at the hours, and in charging vigorously strike their respective numbers. They do this as many times as corresponds with the number of the hour. Seated on a perch some little distance away is a quaint old figure which kicks the quarter hour on two bells at its feet and strikes the hour simultaneously with the lancers' clashes on yet another bell.

Strasburg Cathedral also contains another astronomical clock in that besides various astronomical devices the revolutions of the planets are indicated and the relative position of any one of them all is apparent at a glance. The actual workings are beyond compare in all the world, so intricate are they.

The four ages of man are indicated by movable figures which strike the quarters and the hours. A child strikes the bell with its rattle, a youth strikes the halfhour with a stick, a warrior strikes the three-quarters with his sword, and the hour is struck by an old man with a crutch.

Upon this the figure of death appears and strikes the full number of hours on the hour with his feathless bone. The figure of Christ to a higher platform, and after death strikes again on the twelve apostles passing before their master and bow to him. As Peter passes a cock flaps his wings and crows thrice.

AN AUTOMATIC COW.

A "cow" that gives new milk, skimmed milk, malted milk, cream, fruit-flavored milk, and ice-cream to order; that never kicks or flicks its tail in the milkmaid's eye; that is never assailable by cow itch and can be milked as well by a marine engineer in mid-Atlantic as by a milkmaid, is the remarkable "animal" taken on board the African and Eastern Trade Corporation's steamer "Nigerian," before she sailed from Liverpool recently.

This wonderful cow requires neither exercise nor grass, and delivers milk of any degree of creaminess and at any temperature to order.

All the "milkmaid" has to do is to give the machine—for such this wonderful invention is—a feed of milk powder, fruit-flavor, and a drink of water, press a button, and the cow does the rest. The milk is as rich and fresh as that from a real cow, and no amount of rolling on the part of Bobby will "sour it or chop" it into butter.

The cow has already, by her quiet demeanor and ready response to kindness, won her way to the affections of the crew of the "Nigerian." "We shall be as rosy-cheeked as country girls, with a glass of new milk warm from the cow to go to bed with every night," declared one of them, before he sailed.

There is only one fly in the ointment so far as the crew is concerned. This is how either milkmaids nor dairymaids have been shipped to look after "Topsy." The engineers and the cook will do that.

When fruit juice is spilled on table linen, sprinkle at once with salt to prevent a permanent stain.

Unpleasant odors can be absorbed, if a can of crushed coke is placed in an ice box.

A coat hanger may be made from a newspaper rolled up and suspended by a cord round its centre.

Sun-burn.—If you get bodily burnt by the sun wash in tepid water and apply a little cold cream.

Stain Removers.—If chemicals are used to remove stains on clothing they should be applied before the clothes are washed, as washing gives the stains a firmer hold.

A piece of adhesive tape pasted to the sole of a new shoe prevents slipping.

Windows and mirrors can be cleaned effectively with thin cold starch, which is wiped off with a soft cloth after being allowed to dry thoroughly.

A Hint for Gas Rings.—When cooking on a gas ring, to avoid the irritating vapor which follows when turning the light out, lower the gas after use and press a damp house flannel on the light and put it out; then turn off the tap, and you will find it a much better way than turning the tap off suddenly.

SCIENCE OF CRIMINOLOGY.

PARIS TOURIST SNARE.

Paris being the pleasure city of the world is naturally full of pitfalls for the unwary—and the easiest prey of visitor to the Gay City is very naturally indeed. In fact, a great deal of time has to be spent by the police in the French capital in getting tourists out of the scrapes they have got into.

Being on pleasure bent the tourist is, of course, generally fairly full of money, and prepared to spend a few pounds in order to have a good time. Unfortunately many of the joys which may be purchased in Paris are such as can only be procured in the Gay City and are very illicit indeed.

It has been said that the Englishman invariably leaves six morals in the cloak room at Dover when he crosses the channel. This may or may not be correct, but what does happen is that he is quickly introduced to the lurid underworld of Paris should he succumb to the advances made to him by one of the many hawks waiting to swoop upon and fix their talons into the innocent visitor to Paris. It is no exaggeration whether Paris is more dangerous to the male or female sex, for both extraordinary occurrences which have embraced both sexes.

Not long ago a young and unworldly American girl was strolling down the Boulevard des Capucines one evening when she was accosted by an immaculate scoundrel, who suggested a little supper. Foolishly the girl agreed, and somehow passed the stranger to a certain haunt in the Place Pigalle, in Montmartre. This haunt, although a vicious place, did not constitute such a danger to the girl as the stranger with whom she had her vis-a-vis piled her. After supper the girl visited a cafe and was followed by the stranger suggested that the girl should visit a fortune-teller. She agreed, and was taken to a luxurious flat in Passy. Here she was given a liqueur wine, and later woke up to find herself a prisoner in a strange room. She soon found out that she was in the hands of one of the vice kings of Paris.

Some months later she was traced by detectives employed by an international detective bureau employed by her relations. On her way from the company with one of the detectives, who escorted her across the Seine, she sooner than face her parents, threw herself in the Seine, from which her body was extricated.

Another case which happened only the other day is evidence of the risk which lies in accepting the advances of strangers in the Gay City. A young man, over in Paris for the first time from London, the son of well-to-do parents, struck up an acquaintance with a pretty but painted lady in Montmartre. She was the decoy for a gang of scoundrels, who waylaid the unfortunate youth, cracked his skull with a bludgeon, which is a piece of rubber tubing filled with lead shot, and robbed him of the contents of his pockets (which happened to be no inconsiderable sum, since he was in Paris on business for his father's firm). His body was found the next morning on the banks of the Seine without any clothing and horribly mutilated.

During the past few weeks seven persons have been reported missing to the Paris Surete, three of them being women. At the time of going to press they have not been traced, but the Paris police have a rather cynical habit of saying that if they wait long enough the Seine will do their work for them in this connection, by delivering the corpses of the missing persons. The Seine does not always do this, and some remarkable cases of kidnapping have come to light by the return alive of the victims.

Perhaps the most extraordinary case on record is that of the very wealthy South American who disappeared about six months ago. He was in Paris on a holiday, and staying at one of the best hotels in the Rue de Rivoli. Quite alone in the great capital, his disappearance was not noticed for a few days, and for seven days after his disappearance, because the hotel management thought that he had perhaps gone away for a few day or so. When he did not return for his luggage or to pay his bill they called the Surete's attention to the affair.

The usual enquiries were set on foot, but to no avail. Then one day word came from Brazil that owing to the missing man's wife had been approached by a certain individual to whom a large sum was owing by her husband. This emissary of the kidnappers said that a cable would be sent to Paris as soon as the money was paid, and the wealthy man released from his prison in the Parisian underworld. The Buenos Ayres representative of the Paris police, who arrested the emissary and searched his baggage at a Buenos Ayres hotel. Here a large amount of corresponding was found, including an elaborate code.

The Buenos Ayres police connected a cablegram by this to a certain address in Paris. The messenger carrying the cablegram in Paris from the office of the cable company to the address, was followed by detectives. An hour later the missing man emerged from the house, and was seized by the detectives, and in their company returned to the house of his incarceration, and arrested the ringmasters in the plot, three men and a woman.

It then transpired that the woman had lured the South American to the house, and he had been kept there a prisoner. Realising the value of their prize the conspirators had sent one of their number to Buenos Ayres to extract the ransom from his wife, as there was no one in Paris they could appeal to. The member of the gang arrested in South America was extradited to France, and received with his confreres ten years' imprisonment. The woman was sentenced to a year. Having given evidence at the trial the victim returned quickly to the Argentine and the arms of his distracted wife.

And so it will be seen by these cases that Paris, besides being the pleasure mart of the world, is also one of the most dangerous of cities for the visitor bent on draining the cup of pleasure to the dregs. In conclusion, let me advise those who are to visit Paris to eschew as the plague chance acquaintances, no matter how charming they may be.

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THE COBBERS' CLUB

CONDUCTED BY UNCLE PHIL.

Dear Cobbers.—I have two new competitions for you this week. One is the last week's Leader and the other stitches and cuts. There'll be them in the Competition Corner. The essay on "How You Spent Christmas Day" ends to-morrow, and the results will be announced next week.

I want suggestions for a pet for the girls. A prize will be given to the Cobber who sends in the best suggestion. Each Cobber is entitled to three guesses. I want you all to try.

Have you all gone back to school? I suppose most of you have settled down and are glad to be back.

We are welcoming two new Cobbers this week—Ivy Hauser and A. Lloyd. The club is growing every week, and next week I hope Jacko will be with us. I'll bet we'll welcome some one claims him now.

Every Cobber enter for the new competitions. Love from JACKO AND UNCLE PHIL.

OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

Ivy Hauser.—Welcome to the club, Ivy. I have put your name in the birthday book, and in time you will see your greetings. Are you going to write to me?

A. Lloyd.—Is your name Alan' I'd love to know. I have enrolled you in both the Cobbers' and Stitchers' Clubs. Hope to receive some contributions from you soon. Jacko just jumped for joy when I told him another Cobber had joined.

Puzzle Pet.—Glad to hear from you again. Am using your contributions. Hope you try for the new competitions.

Phyllis Kerr.—I'm glad you like your book, Phyllis. Do you like going into town? It makes a very long day if you've any shopping to do. Did you visit the Sandringham and the sea? Write again.

Aubrey McCoubrie.—I think your other contrib. was in last week's club. Am using your last one shortly. You'll see some more. Glad you like your contributions.

Enid Smith.—Have you been to a farm, Enid? I bet you had heaps of fun. Did you like the country? How did you eat too many plums and have to visit the castor oil bottle? Write again.

Aubrey Singleton.—Am using one of your contributions. Are you a good one-hand Japanese ships. Do you like sailing on the sea? Wish you'd write again. Jacko wishes you good luck too.

Beryl Lomas.—It is lovely to hear from you again. It is a long way to South Australia, but just beautiful if you travel by train. I'm glad you have a happy Xmas. Send some more contributions.

Anna Crow.—You will see your story printed this week. Write again. Glad you enjoyed Christmas vacation.

Ida Owen.—The storyette you sent has been printed before, so I can't print it again. Am using your delightful story. Enter for the new competitions.

Sid Singleton.—I hope you have both your feet better now. Am glad the entries close then. It would be rotten if you were drowned and it miss him so much, you know. Uncle Peter is still in Queensland. I haven't heard from him lately, I'm afraid.

Kelvin Bensley.—Thought you had forgotten me and the club. You do have a busy day, but I guess you love doing things and running messages for Mother. Write again.

Jack Firth.—Did you have a good time at Rosebud, Jack? Plenty of swimming and making sand castles. Did you ever go fishing. It is a lovely place.

Florrie Cameron.—Good for you, Florrie. Did you make that up all by yourself? Will use your other contribs. when I can.

Valma Chesson.—I am still waiting for you to tell me what to do about your stitch. Write and tell me about it.

Lorna Lynch.—Please don't write on both sides of the paper, Lorna, as I have to copy out one side again. I am anxiting your story of the "Pillowslips" this week. Love from Jacko.

Alma Lewis.—Will you fill in the coupon at the foot of the Cobbers' Club and send it to me. Then I can make you a member and print your contribs. and send you a certificate.

Violet Whipp.—I received your letter. I have put your name on the "Farewell to Summer." Will you put on your contribs. whether they're copied or original.

Birthday Greetings to Cobbers.

We all wish Colin Junor (Feb. 5), Gwen Chown (Feb. 6), Leu Fulton (Feb. 9) and Harley E. Bardwell (Feb. 10) the happiest birthday they have ever spent.—Uncle Phil, Jacko and all the Cobbers.

LIMERICK—FIND THE LAST LINE.

To-day there is a Limerick Competition. Find the last line and you will earn a prize of 2/6. Marks will be given for other good lines. The competition will be open for two weeks, and winner will be announced on February 25.

There was a young man of Calcutta
Who was a terrible fellow to stutter,
He went into a shop
To buy lollipops,

ALLITERATION.

Send in a sentence with as many words beginning with the letter "A" as possible in it. A prize of 2/6 will be given for the best attempt. Entries must reach me by March 4, 1927.

Example.—Artful Archie Allan angered and aroused amiable Amelia Alford with airy anachronisms.

Answers will be announced on March 11, and marks will be given for other good attempts.

COBBERS' WRITINGS.

THE ENCHANTED GLADE.

Fair Mary had received locked Sylvia into bed, kissed her, and left the room ten minutes, before Sylvia jumped out of bed and commenced to dress. A wonderful idea had come to her. She was going out to the little wood at the foot of the garden to wait for the fairies to come out and dance in the little clearing. Aunt Mary had christened "The Enchanted Glade." Aunty had told her stories about wee fairies who held their midnight revels in that same glade. Sylvia crept out through the window, across the verandah and down the path to the little iron gate which led to the wood. She wasn't in the least afraid. For one thing it was bright moonlight and the stars twinkled in the heavens like guardian angels, and for another, she came down this little winding path every day on the way to school, it was her favorite playground. It was deserted now; no signs whatever of fairies. But this did not daunt Sylvia at all. She sat down on a mossy log behind two tall trees and waited patiently. Just as she began to grow sleepy a bee flew past her, and startled her. "Hullo!" She looked down. Beside her sat a little bunny rabbit. "Hullo!" she said again. "I hope I did not frighten you. Have you come to see the fairy queen's procession?" "Why, not exactly," said Sylvia, hardly believing her ears—a rabbit talking! "I came in search of a fairy." "Oh, then you'll see plenty," said the rabbit. "Here they come now."

Sylvia watched a shrill note ring out. When the last echo died away the air was filled with a tinkling melody, played softly on a fairy flute. Then the notes grew louder, and a fairy, a silver flute raised to her lips, appeared from the glade. The fairy herald," whispered the rabbit, and Sylvia gazed at the fairy, fascinated. The tune suddenly broke into a cascade of rippling notes and trills, a wonderful harmony full of happy little sounds and beautiful notes. From the opposite side of the glade came a band of elves who, as they danced, parted to form an avenue through which two dragon flies flew drawing a fairy chariot of dark ebony, inlaid with set the fairy queen. The chariot was of the most amazing things. (GOOD.)

WORD SQUARE.

Object used for carrying; length by breadth; wide stretches of water; a point of a compass.

C A R E
A R E A
S E A S
E A S T

(GOOD.) Frank Johnston.

RIDDLE-MEREE.

My first is in silence, and also in haste;
My second is in take, but not in waste;
My third is in ruler, but not in king;
My fourth is in kiss, but not in ring.
My fifth is in rest, but not in ease;
My sixth is in corn, but not in grass.
Guess this correctly, and then you will find
The name of a man well known to mankind.
Answer—Nelson.
(GOOD.) Beryl Lomas.

TWILIGHT YARNS.

Have You Ever Seen—A tongue in the mouth of a river; a toe on the foot of a mountain; a chin at the source of a river; and an eye in the head of a pin. (GOOD.) P. Kerr.

The maid was leaving, and her mistress was sad to part: "Mary, I should like to give you a good reference, but my conscience compels me to state that you are a bad cook." "Well, madam," retorted the girl, "you can say I got the meals in the same way as I got my pay."
(GOOD.) Anna Crow.

The Useful Cat.—Johnnie—"Mother, there's the cat with kittens!" Mother—"I don't know, what do you want me to do?" Johnnie—"I want some whiskers to stick on my kittens."

To His Horror.—It was a very dark night, and the object was lost. Presently he saw a sign on a post the great difficulty he climbed the post, struck a match, and read: "Wet Paint."

A Squasher.—Quack Doctor (at street corner): "I have sold over a million bottles of this medicine, and have never received a complaint. What does that mean?" Voice (from crowd): "That dead men tell no tales."
(GOOD.) Sid Singleton.

It was reading lesson and Johnny Brown was reading aloud and very badly. "The captain," he stuttered, "as he stood on the b-bridge while the b-big s-ship ploughed her way through the sea, suddenly espied a——" Here Jones paused. The word was too much for him "B-b-b-b——" he stuttered. "Go on, Johnny," said the teacher. "Th-b-b-b——" he continued, "Jargon, boy," roared the master, "Baroque!" Johnny looked around the class, then at the book. "Bow-wow-wow!" he said.
(GOOD.) Cyril Webb.

A fire engine on its way was very much delayed by a little Hebrew who was riding a bicycle zig-zag just in front of the engine, evidently anxious to keep up with it to the fire in time to see the engine work. One of the firemen, wishing to get ahead of the engine, caught hold of the boy and yelled him to one side, at the same time shouting: "You little Shoeny, you ought to be arrested for getting in the way. I've a good mind to spank you." The boy looked at the fireman in amazement, and whispered: "If I wasn't for the Jews you wouldn't have anything to do."
(GOOD.) Albert Foote.

Jones.—"Ah, Bill, lend us a tenner." Bill.—"I've only got five pounds, Jones—"Well, give it to me, and then you owe me five pounds." Bill—"But I lent you five pounds, so you owe me £10." Jones—"That's all right. I asked for the loan of a ten pound note, and you only gave me five, so you owe me five, and you say I owe you five, so we'll call it square." Bill groaned in a trance! Walt till I think."
(GOOD.) Cyril McCombie.

A Grim Happening.—Breathlessly he ran to the doctor's door and rang the bell. He do it? He had been tempted before, but never as badly as now. He could hear his wife say with the keen light How cold and keen it felt. One slip and——and What would the people think? "I will, I will," he said. He then scraped his face, and commenced to shave.
(GOOD.) Aubrey Singleton.

Now, Tommy," said the teacher during arithmetic lesson, "supposing your mother gave you twopence, and your uncle gave you threepence, what would you have?" "Indigestion, miss," replied Tommy. "I can't make up my mind whether to buy chocolates or caramels."
(GOOD.) John Lynch.

PUZZLERS AND ANSWERS.

When we go to bed what time is it?—Bed time.

I have no legs, yet I can run. What am I?—Water.
Phyllis Kerr.

What is the difference between a locomotive and an easter egg?—One minds the train and the other trains the mind.
(GOOD.) Albert Foote.

How can you make 12d go a long way?—Buy a stamp, put it on a letter, and post it to England.

Why are two Frenchmen having a duel like a ruling round a parachute?—Because both are fencing.

Jinks—"Good day, Binks; how's business?" Binks is taller)—"Oh, so-so and sore."

Joyce—"I can say my A B C frontwards and backwards." Tom (seventy) "Now say it sideways."
Fred Smith.
(GOOD.)

A foreman hooked the new hand up and down. "Are you a mechanic?" he asked. "Sure," was the reply. "I'm a McCarthy."
Gordon Bardwell.
(GOOD.)

What am I?—My first is a circle; my second is a curve. If you agree with my whole look out for a toss!
Answer—An ox.
(GOOD.) Beryl Lomas.

The Adventures of Good Gwenny and Naughty Nancy.

As they went down the hill, some naughty little boys ran out into the road, and the driver shouted to them to get out of the way. Just as the pony was on top of them they rushed for safety. Gwenny immediately started to run and pull faces at those boys, but Nancy, who knew more of her, tripped over a stone and fell. One of the stones hit the pony, and it was the most moment they were all living for as hard as they could, because the pony had bolted and was flying along at a great rate. Nancy's face was terrified and clung to Gwen, while the driver and the little boy tried in vain to stop the pony.

After reaching the bottom of the hill the pony stopped, and when he ran over a culvert and bumped one wheel of the cart the whole thing broke, he just struggled and tore himself free of the cart and galloped on. When he had bumped and turned over Nancy and Gwen found themselves thrown violently on the road, while the driver and little boy were shot over the hedge into a field. Although neither of the girls was much hurt, and when they found the others in the thicket they just laughed and laughed. Gwen immediately set about to get back on the road, but Nancy said she eventually were free. But where was the pony? Gwen thought that they were still three miles from the driver's home.

(To be continued.)

How to Join the Cobbers' Club.

Fill in form at the bottom of the page and address to

UNCLE PHIL,
"The Leader,"
High St., Northcote.

In due course you will receive a booklet telling you that you are a member of the club. Join now, and tell your friends to join too.

COMPETITION CORNER.

Stories, riddles, catches, jokes, puzzles, short verse, or anything you think will be interesting to the Cobbers' Club are to be sent to Uncle Phil, the "Leader," High street, Northcote.

They will be printed or marked—Good, Better, Best. Good, 5 marks; Better, 7 marks; Best, 10 marks. Send out all your own and keep them until you have 100 marks. Then send to Uncle Phil, and may if you prefer a cash prize of 2/6 or a book. If a book, say the title.

THE COBBERS' CLUB

Please enrol me as a member of the "COBBERS' CLUB."

Name and Age .....

Address .....

Date of Birthday ..... Present Age .....

11/2/1927.

Look for "Cobbers' Club" next week.

1927
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NORTHCOTE'S METAL CARTAGE.

SPEED AND LOADS DISCUSSED.

During consideration of the Public Works Committee recommendations at the meeting of the Northcote City Council on Monday evening, Cr. E. Dennis moved that the following clause be inserted:—

Metal Cartage Contract.—That the metal cartage contractors, Messrs. J. Hayes and Son, be notified that in future they will require to use threeton trucks in lieu of four-ton trucks at present in use for the cartage of metal from the council's quarry under contract.

Cr. Dennis said the council could have metal carted by five ton or three ton lots. The rates were 2/- and 2/6 per ton respectively. It was in the province of the council to regulate the speed. After all it was the speed that was the biggest factor. The three ton waggon had six inch tyres, and the five ton 24 inch tyres. It remained to be shown which waggon would do more damage. The North Ward people had complained of speed, and, damage to their streets, and also that properties were being damaged. Only the other night a brick fell out. It occurred would this be an advantage. Under the present system the council should penalise itself by the contract price of metal carting now, when they have to supervise different loads to pieces. Repeated attempts had been made to lessen the speed, and if this could be done, the nuisance would be minimised. The extra 6d a ton would be saved to the council.

Cr. Hayes said that when the carting was let by contract the proposition he had said that the roads would be damaged. It might be advisable to have a wider tyre on the five ton trucks. The North Ward boys always had a good time with the waggon, and the city as a whole got the benefit. As soon as a start was made in the North Ward the metal could be trucks traversed it, and cut it up. Cr. McIntosh had seen the way in which the trucks was up to 24 m.p.h., and the resolution would be some measure of relief to the people.

Cr. Turner said that with a 3-ton truck the council could get 5½ and for a five-ton truck 10/-. Then with the 3-ton trucks the man would drive faster, to make up the difference. In stead of penalising the contractor as they should, they were doing the wrong way to get out of a difficulty. The Public Works Committee should meet more frequently so that the man the contractor observe the regulations.

Cr. Bond said apparently the agreement only covered the metal, which had already been gone over. Apparently Cr. Dennis did not know much about 3-ton trucks. If the contract for the five ton was cancelled, it would probably cost 2/6 per ton to get the metal carted. He hoped that the contract would be continued, in the interests of the ratepayers, and for the economy of private streets.

Cr. Dunlop asked if a limit of 12 miles an hour applied in both cases.

The surveyor—Yes.

Cr. Mitchell supported the motion. He did not quite believe in the arguments for speed v. weight. With brick carting the roads were not up, and they moved only slowly. On the other hand in Bailey street one of the 6-ton lorries had just ploughed up the street. He was of opinion that, the three ton trucks going faster 3/4 trucks going slowly. The situation caused by the big 6-ton trucks fully loaded was enough to shake articles in houses. Lately the motors had not been going so fast as they had been, after the notices had been made.

Cr. Dennis said if the amendment was carried it would mean 6-ton loads. If speed was reduced, the vibration would be got over to a large measure. The Public Works Committee put a clause on the notice paper, and immediately there was a lot of carping criticism from councillors who had the same opportunity as he, once a fortnight, to discuss the matter. The matter had come from the Public Works Committee, and they would see that the trucks were governed down.

The amendment was lost, and the motion was carried.

NORTHCOTE V. FITZROY.

The above teams met on the ground of the former on a batsman's wicket and in perfect weather. Gibaud, acting as captain, winning the toss, decided to bat, the opening pair being Hartkopf and Heron. Disaster soon came, Heron being caught before he had scored. Gibaud followed and was bowled first ball—two wickets for one run. Powell, fresh from his previous triumphs, was next in, and became very aggressive from the start, and in conjunction with Hartkopf brought the score to 32, when Hartkopf was caught by A. Lansdown—three for 32.

Morgan partnered Powell, and again the pugnar wicketkeeper showed his talent with the bat, and together they brought the score to 92 when Morgan, going out to Cannman, missed, and the ball coming off the wicketkeeper's pads, Cannman ran it out bat and he was out. Thus a very fine and lively partnership was dissolved. Charlesworth followed, but had only made 12 when he was out to A. Lansdown, caught Cannman. Butterfield was again unlucky; after making 9 he was bowled by Cannman. Powell after reaching 51 was bowled by Dunmett. He had played a faultless innings. Keeley, Dunlop, Ellis and Marsh were all dismissed for small scores, and the innings closed for 209 runs, giving the home team an advantage of 1 in the first innings Preston lost nine for 205 runs, Tulk (23) being top-scorer.

SECOND ELEVENS.

Hawthorn-East Melbourne 98 and four for 42 (Stevens 20 not out) v. Preston 63 and 50 (Attwood 34, Brown 5/23, Healy 3/21, May 2/6).

North Suburban Association.

FIRST GRADE.

Coburg-Bell Park 159 (Hicks 74, Ivey 30) v. Coburg Footballers, none for 3.

SECOND GRADE.

South Preston Methodists 225 (Hocking 43, Bolbridge 40, Hutt 36, Ellis 30 n.o.; McLeish 4/65, Rich 5/65), v. St. Stephen's—Not in.

West Coburg 181 (Bowen 30, McKelvie 22, Woolfe 38; Butler 4/37) v. Bowyers, one for 13.

THIRD GRADE.

Northcote B.S.O. 167 (Latter 41, Richardson 36, Banfield 32; Layton 4/22) v. Collingwood Diters, one for 46 (Lorenzo 33 n.o.).

Brightside eight for 76 (Meott 22; Smith 6/39) v. Croxton 88 (Dyko 31; Carlick 4/24).

Alphington Press, 70 (Summers 22, Rode 20) v. Kew, all out 64 (Rode 4/19, (Ridley 21, Poole 4/32).

Regent 66 v. Jenkins, nine for 117 (Carey 101 and 5/41).

Palmer Street 29 and three for 49 (Brien 5/27) v. Lynn Shoe, 161 (Ryan 55, Watson 38 and 5/27, Coombe 2/9).

Dennis, five for 99 (Reilly 31, Orchard 20; Brackly 6/35) v. North Carlton 118 (Barnes 39, Gowan 37).

Brunswick Scouts' Old Boys 119 (G. Shepherd 50, Ploog 29; Alexander 7/35) v. Mangoels, two for 6.

Jika Association.

Gowerville, seven for 227 (Bassett 104, Baldwin 35, Freeman 31) v. Reservoir.

Ascot 185 (Huxley 34 Waggon 34, Coller 27; Maskiel 4/48, Colson 4/64) v. Ideal Northcote, six for 35 (Cornell 6/35).

Broadhurst's 129 (Digby 42) v. East Ward, 45 (Kerr 20; Digby 4/7).

Prestonite, seven for 161 (Temple 61, Fothergill 34, Dolphin 22; Spoor 6/34), v. Glenifra 59 (Shields 6/25).

HEIDELBERG DISTRICT.

Alphington Footballers 86 (Fleming 4/37) v. Heidelberg, five for 57.

Fairfield 343 (S. Temay 50, Ridgway 36, Bigleman 28, Joyce 24; Curtis 7/61) v. Rosanna, one for 16.

Preston Church of Christ 57, Balfour 32; Ford 4/31, Burrows 4/32) v. Alphington, three for 5 (Rendall 2/2).

West Heidelberg 14 (McCalson 6/4, Munro 4/1 and Ivy for 65) v. Fairfield Junior Footballers 52.

Other Matches.

St. John's Church of England Heidelberg, four for 228 (Dowell 82 n.o., Bowling 85 and 4/2, Hannah 20, Hall 20) v. Eltham Church of England, Northcote 22.

Preston Baptists No. 2 team 32 (Brown 27, Henry 4/4) v. Coburg, two for 49 (Dyson 23 n.o. and 3/15).

Kilda Road Congregationalists 45, Taylor 5/22) v. Preston Baptist No. 1 team, five for 46 (Sunday 24 n.o. Taylor 23, Hutchison 21).

St. Jude's Alphington 66 (Hamilton 4/24, St. George 3/9) v. Northcote 73 (Hickle 4/38).

Preston P.A.P.S. three for 192 (Seabrook 103, Brain 51 n.o.) v. Carlton 85 (Dalzel 37, Holtoh 22, N. Burge 4/17), Brunswick 39 (Clements 4/5, Hargreaves 3/15, Herbert 57, King 7/5) v. Hawthorn, five for 45 (Bunn 21 n.o.; Scott 4/16).

CRICKET BOWLING

PRESTON CLUB.

PENNANTS.

Eric A's es far as winning their section is concerned. Last Saturday they were well beaten by our friends and neighbors at Northcote. The green was in excellent condition and we must congratulate the winners on their good game and the manly way in which it was played. We feel we have some under to a stronger team, and wish them success in their remaining engagements. We have done very well this season. In fact much better in the senior section than ever before, and at last the newspapers of Preston are recognising that their Preston is now beginning to be a force to be reckoned with. The results as under tell the story, and we shall now go on set with same spirit to try and build up for next season.

PRESTON 76 v. NORTHCOTE 113.

White, Pike Jun., Worrall, Henshaw 19 v. Hird, Wetherall, Hamilton, Watt 19. Dunsson 23.

Crisp Jun., Bolding, Morgan, Hoss 17 v. Kenny, Darby, Jackson, Maynard 22.

Harvey, Condie, Broadhurst, Sinclair 23 v. Harrington, Plant, Smith, Mendenhall 28.

Appleton, Cohen, Burgess, Jike Son, 16 v. Thompson, Hawthorn, Sharp, Lawrence 17.

C PENNANT.

On Tuesday the C's (1) are left to do honor to the club's colors against a great win over Caulfield on the Caulfield green. The match was played in quite so well, but there was a decided atmosphere about the players of the home club. Perhaps the fact that the city rather unexpectedly, leaving us with a clear field, was responsible for them, or, to be more correct, three out of the four rinks had no difficulty. The fourth rink, in charge of Prendergast, had to play second fiddle all the afternoon to White's rink. Everybody more or less has this experience at some time or another. Thornbury's quartette were out of form, and the Alma chaps were at their top; the final scores for this match were 20 to 18 in favor of White. White's rink more than balanced the ledger for the fourth rink, and Alma had a good day, all in the rink playing well, with Herne sending the home team as was wrestled. Pollard and Prendergast made good recoveries after not playing up to their usual standard, ably up. Now C 1 have the honor of bringing home the first section win, we will now look forward to the next the pennant.

Preston 1st 104 v. Caulfield 64.

Capp, Fair, Fox, Howe 43 v. Allen, Cuson, Colstock, Cornlen 15.

Norris, Lee, Wilson, Pollock 32 v. Timbs, Cooper, Evans, McKnicketer 28.

Watson, Henderson, Green, Straede 29 v. Miller, Emery, Masterson, Gray 23.

FRIENDLY GAMES.

A friendly game with six rinks a side Brunswick was played on the Preston green on Wednesday evening, February 2. A most enjoyable game was held, although we finished in the remarkable short score that took place about 10 o'clock. Four rinks could be heard strange noises such as "Bowls" and "Jack" to me," but alas, we could not see, and had to be led by boys as guides. A good strange experience. Everybody had amongst the visitors such good players as Messrs. Hutchinson and Mackay, McCornish and Charlie Bath, and it was the opinion of the visiting bowlers re the plain condition of our green, in view of the fact that we are going to hold an open tourney this year, these gentlemen are prepared to state an opinion without fear or favor. They all agreed that the green could more than hold its own with the majority of greens, and in fact were exceedingly complimentary on the great improvement that had taken place. This is highly satisfactory to the Preston committee, and we trust that players who read these notes will keep their feet in their minds when the programme for the "Green-Algiers Tourney" is posted in their pavilions.

C 2's.

C 2's lost to North Fitzroy. Scores—North Fitzroy 91 v. Preston 51. I am unable to give particulars, not having received any report in time to press.

PENNANT MATCHES.

The following are the pennant matches for Saturday, February 12:—

A Pennant—Preston v. Auburn Hotham, Preston.

C Pennant—Preston 1st v. Middle Park 2, at Preston. Preston 2nd v. Brighton, at Brighton.

Members please watch notice board for teams. Will C members please make arrangements to get to Brighton.

FRIENDLY MATCH.

On Tuesday, February 15, six rinks will play returned soldiers of Preston Club R.S.S.I.L.A. Roll up and do honor to our Digger friends.

THORNBURY CLUB.

The pennant fixtures were resumed last Saturday, after a break of three weeks, by a visit to Caulfield to Alma, and as on the previous occasion we met with difficulty in beating them, or, to be more correct, three out of the four rinks had no difficulty. The fourth rink, in charge of Prendergast, had to play second fiddle all the afternoon to White's rink. Everybody more or less has this experience at some time or another. Thornbury's quartette were out of form, and the Alma chaps were at their top; the final scores for this match were 20 to 18 in favor of White. White's rink more than balanced the ledger for the fourth rink, and Alma had a good day, all in the rink playing well, with Herne sending the home team as was wrestled. Pollard and Prendergast made good recoveries after not playing up to their usual standard, ably up. Now C 1 have the honor of bringing home the first section win, we will now look forward to the next the pennant.

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STOTT SON & WATSON

THE TOWN'S OLDEST ESTABLISHED AUCTIONEER, ESTATE AND FINANCIAL AGENT.

Head Office:—39 HIGH STREET (Car. Westbourne Grove).

Branches—HIGH ST., THORNBURY, Car. Dundas Street.
HIGH ST., PRESTON, opposite Post Office.
RAILWAY APPROACH, FAIRFIELD, opposite Station.
Phones—Northcote 554-555.

AUCTION SALE.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11,
at 11 a.m. sharp, on the premises,
HIGH STREET, THORNBURY
(Terminus of Northcote cable tram)
By order of Richard Clifford, who is retiring from business, the whole of his useful and well kept stock of MEN'S, WOMEN'S & CHILDREN'S BOOTS AND SHOES; also Travelling and Leather Goods, Boot Shop Fittings, etc., etc. In lots to suit the general public and the trade.
800 LOTS. 800 LOTS.
For absolute, unreserved sale. Goods on view on Wednesday and Thursday, 9th and 10th, between 10 and 4.
A. A. EAHY & CO.,
(Proprietor:—D. HOOK),
Estate Agents, 901 High St., Northcote. Phone 340 and 931. Will sell, through their auctioneer, A. E. West, 156 Waverley Rd., East Malvern, U4661.

AUCTION SALE.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19,
At 2 o'clock,
"JOANVILLE," WALLACE STREET, PRESTON.
Two doors from Gilbert Road Tram.
CHARMING TILED VILLA,
containing 6 rooms, bath, pantry, washhouse, garage, etc., gas, E.L., sewer, made street and footpath. Land 50 x 119, nicely laid out in gardens, etc. The property is situated in one of the best parts of Preston.
Title Certificate. Terms at Sale.
Orders to view from
LLEWELLYN JONES,
Auctioneer, High St., Preston.
Phone—Northcote 1.

Impounding.

JUSTICES ACT 1915.
INFORMATION OR COMPLAINT FOR AN OFFENCE PUNISHABLE SUMMARILY AND SUMMONS THEREON.
In the Court of Petty Sessions at Northcote, in the Central Bailiwick.
By William John Jones, Acting Ranger to the Mayor, Councillors, and Citizens of the City of Northcote, informant.
Against Owner, Defendant.
The information of William John Jones, of Northcote, in the State of Victoria, who saith that on the 3rd day of February, 1927, at Northcote, in the said bailiwick and State, the said unknown person being the owner of certain cattle, to wit One Bay Pony Mare, about 12 hands, broad like J.P. under bar near shoulder, found on certain land of Mitchell street such land not being a common and such that there is no fence dividing such land from the said street without proper having charge of the said cattle.
W. J. Jones, Informant.
To Unknown Owner aforesaid.
WHEREAS the above information has this day been laid by the above-named William John Jones before me one His Majesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the Central Bailiwick of the said State. These are therefore to command you in His Majesty's name to be and appear on the 15th day of February, 1927, at the hour of 10 o'clock in the forenoon at the said Court of Petty Sessions at Northcote to answer to the said information and to be further dealt with according to law.
Dated at Northcote the 15th day of February, 1927.
HENRY W. EVANS, J.P.
[Stamp Fee 2/6 Cancelled.]
Note.—If not claimed the Court will be asked for an order to sell at noon the same day, 15th February, 1927.

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"Do Babes grow fast, Jimmie?" "Some of them do. My father caught one last year that grows at inch every time his wife anybody about it."

NORTHCOTE THEATRE

Friday and Saturday,
February 11th and 12th
"Fascinating Youth"
and
"The Danger Girl"
See Movies made on Theatre Stage Saturday Night.
(Competitors names advertised elsewhere.)

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, February 14, 15 and 16
"Battling Butler"
(Buster Keaton)
"Qualified Adventurer"
(Matheson Lang)

Thursday, Friday, & Saturday
February 17, 18, 19
"Take It From Me"
(Reg. Denny)
"Gilded Highway"
(Dorothy Devore)

MISS NORTHCOTE COMPETITION
Personal Appearance Nightly of Bathing Girls each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday.
Morning Pictures and Entertainments shown Thursday, Friday, Saturday.
Voting all the week
MISS NORTHCOTE COMPETITION
is teh Heat - Gertrude Newin, Dorothy Chapman, Vera Weate, Dorothy Hickey, Edna Brookes, Mavis Bennett, Ivy Bennett, Ivy Smith, Joan Doyle, Irene Page, Dorothy Coggins, Dulcie Wilson.
MOVING PICTURES taken on Stage this Saturday Night.

THORNBURY SCHOOL.

In connection with the visit of the Governor-General to the Thornbury school, box has been allotted the position of district supervisor and marshal in connection with the State schools' display. A fine spud attended for drill practice on Thursday night and on Wednesday last.

Owing to the overflow attendance the committee arranged with the Department to provide a pavilion room, instead of starting the week. There have also been several additions to the equipment provided by the committee, including an increase to the library to the extent of £20. During the vacation a further square of asphalt has been put down at a cost of over £100. This work was previously subscribed by the parents of the district.

The committee are preparing a scheme to form a past pupils' association, particulars of which will be available from Mr. Tulloch, the correspondent, at an early date, when a general meeting will be called to complete arrangements.

Although Mr. Hughes commenced the new year with a full complement of teachers, information came to hand away ill and others attending classes of instruction in connection with the Duke's festivities. He is far short of his number, and would be glad if any lady wishing to help would kindly accept temporary employment at the school.

J. O. HUGHES SCHOLARSHIP.

The scholarship founded by the committee of the Thornbury school, which provides for the free tuition of a boy and girl each year from the above school to either the Northcote or Northcote High Schools has been in existence just three years. This school is in the happy position of having three girls and two boys now receiving free tuition for a period of three years. Unfortunately one of last year's scholars has since passed on the course, thereby leaving the remainder of the year's course vacant. The successful candidates this year were Miss Sutelle Dowlle and Master Leonard Andrews. Congratulations are extended to these pupils and also to the teachers from the head master and committee.

"THE REGENT NEWS."

The Regent's programmes continue to show marked improvement in excellent entertainment value. Commencing on Monday, for three nights will be screened the picturisation of Kathleen Norris' novel, "Rustling Butter," supported by Buster Keaton, assisted in the shape of Harry Langdon in "The Strong Man." This programme will be followed by one equally as good on Thursday, when Reginald Denny will appear in "Take It From Me," his latest Universal special attraction. This will be supported by Beatrice Joy's latest picture, a D.C. attraction entitled "Made For Love." No carping critic could find anything to complain of in the fine entertainment furnished by these two features.

VAUDEVILLE EXTRAORDINARY AT THE REGENT.

Commencing on Monday, Lorna, Lance and Co. will open a week's season at the Regent, straight from Pullen's Circuit. This is an engagement out of the ordinary, as this clever little artiste is supported by a company which will introduce the world's youngest dancing mimic—only five years old—and as full of tricks as a bagful of monkeys. You will not miss this attraction, as its excellence will well repay the visit to the Regent

She—"I believe every person should sing at his work." He—"My brother does." She—"Why not?" He—"He's a trombone player."

For the Hair.—If your hair gets hot and greasy during the summer months rub powdered orris root or starch into your hair and brush well afterwards.

Miss Thompson—"You are taking a stroll all alone once more, Mr. Smith. Doesn't your wife miss you?" Mr. Smith—"Not often. She can take the cleverest sim of any woman I know."

DEATH.
SHERBY.—On the 9th February, at 189 Clarke St., Northcote, Patrick Sheehy, husband of the late Isabel, and loving father of Maurice, Kathleen (Mrs. Hosley), John and Desmond, and loving grandfather of Patrick and Valma, aged 76 years. Rest in peace.

DEATH.
McLEAN.—On the 8th February, at his residence, 13 Shaftesbury Pde., Northcote, William, the dearly beloved husband of Elizabeth McLean, and loving father of Frederick, Arthur, Isabel (Mrs. Ashton), William, (James deceased), and George, aged 66 years. Twenty-eight years employed West Melbourne Gas Works.
A patient sufferer at rest.

THANKS.
MRS. McLEAN and FAMILY wish to thank their many kind relatives and friends for letters, cards, telegrams and floral tributes received during their sad bereavement in the loss of their dear husband and father; especially thanking the Rev. Raverty and Dr. Hinrichsen for their attention and kindness during his illness.
13 Shaftesbury Parade, Northcote.

The Leader

Published Every Friday Morning.
JUSTICE TO ALL.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1927.

ITEMS OF NEWS.

The Northcote Council has resolved to make and administer a parks by-law to control the various parks and reserves within the municipality of Northcote.

While crossing the intersection of Spring and Latrobe streets, Melbourne, on Tuesday, Geraldine Grace, 2 High street, Thornbury, was knocked down by a motor car driven by Mr. T. Fox, of Preston. She was admitted to the Melbourne Hospital suffering from injuries to the spine.

At a recent appeal held under the auspices of the members of the South Preston R.S.S.L. Sister's Home in aid of Mrs. Hinton, the sum of £29 was raised, and the club desires to thank those who so generously donated and assisted in this worthy cause.

The Preston Rotary Boilermakers' Club wish to announce to their friends and patrons that the first of their series of socials will be held in the Rotary Hall, High St., Preston, on Wednesday, February 16. Old and modern dances and good euchre prizes.

At the recent London College examination pupils of Mrs. L. Latham, A.L.C.M., Candy street, Northcote, were successful in pianoforte, elementary honors—Phyllis Groth 93, Ulty Boatwright 91. Primary—Jean Orr, 93, third class pass.

A further meeting of the Preston Citizens' Regimental Association was held at the drill hall last Thursday night. Cr. McKenna being in the chair. It was reported that there was about £30 in hand in connection with the appeal for regimental colors. Other matters also received attention. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 24.

On Saturday, February 12, Miss Flossie Ross will again present her pupils in dancing, when they will also submit the latest vaudeville and musical items. The concert company appeared for the first time and gave a good entertainment. A complete change of programme will be given. As invitation is extended to "come and patronise Australian."

The bicyclist who is riding around the suburbs on backwarding exhibitions appeared at Northcote on Monday afternoon. Mrs. C. E. I. Scott, of Separation street, Northcote, was walking along Candy street at 2.30 with her handbag under her arm, when a cyclist passed her and snatched the bag from her. He rode towards Westgarth. The bag and contents are valued by Mrs. Scott at £7/10/-.

Residents of Greensborough one night last week had a very unusual stand a total cessation of their supply of water from the main. Those who had tanks were not greatly troubled by the inconvenience. Metropolitan Board of Works employee found that the cause of the stoppage was an eel, about four feet long and weighing 5lb., which had been forced from the main intake behind the meter of the 3-inch intake for Greensborough service.

A daring attempt to break into the business premises of Alfred Hare in High street, Northcote, was made on Monday night last by burglars. It is only a few months since the premises was broken into, when the back door was forced and a considerable amount of property was stolen. On this occasion 20 bricks were removed from the back wall, but the burglars must have been disturbed in their attempt, as they did not gain their objective.

Before Mr. Justice Mann at the Third Civil Court Joseph John Miller, 32, a boot repairer, of Separation street, Northcote, sued Mary Ann Miller, 30, of Elizabeth Miller, 33 years, of Swan street, Poplar, London, on the ground of desertion. The marriage took place in 1919, Petitioner said that when he left England his wife agreed to follow him. When he secured a home here she wrote and said she had changed her mind and would not join him. A decree nisi was granted.

A letter was received at the last meeting of the Northcote City Council from the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board, asking council to bring in a traffic regulation to provide that fire engines and other apparatus going to a fire should be given a clear road, and that drivers of vehicles should keep as near to the left kerb as possible during the passing of such engine. The town clerk stated that provision was already included in the council's by-laws. It was resolved to so inform the board.

Missing his footing while boarding an electric tram in St. George's road, near Beaver road, on Monday morning, Percy Maloney, 14 years, of 82 Beaver road, Northcote, fell backward and got his foot caught on the step. He was dragged along about 10 yards by the moving tram before his plight was realised. He was taken to St. Vincent's Hospital, where he was admitted for treatment for compound fracture of the left forearm, head lacerations, bruises to the back and internal injuries. He subsequently succumbed to his injuries.

A special meeting of Thornbury shopkeepers was called for Thursday morning, February 10, to discuss the advisability of continuing in the City of Northcote Traders' Association. The opinions seemed to differ as to whether Thornbury would not be better off with its own association. The meeting decided that a more representative meeting of all shopkeepers should be called for Wednesday evening, February 16, at 8 p.m. The business transacted by the Artistic Home Furnishers, High street.

R.S.S.I.L.A.—A most successful social evening was held in the Memorial Hall on Monday, February 7. Members and their lady friends were entertained with dancing and musical items till a late hour. The purpose of the evening was to place before the returned men of Northcote the aims and objects of the branch, mainly in connection with distress among Diggers. Mr. F. H. Burns (president) spoke of the activities of the branch in this matter, and was ably supported by Mr. H. Ford, from Ansac House, Mr. Hall, of the R.S.S.I.L.A., and other officials that the Diggers who are not members at present will join the branch and help to make the Northcote branch one of the strongest in the State. The musical portion of the programme was supplied by Mr. Allen, Miss Jean Hunter and Mr. Mountain. The catering was in the capable hands of the ladies of the social committee.

At the recent examinations held by the London College of Music, Walter Towers, aged 13 years, was successful in obtaining A.L.C.M. He is one of the youngest boys in Victoria to have passed this standard. He also has to his credit 14 certificates in the various colleges of music. They had little or no fruit, and what little they did have they had lost by wind storms. A work could not be found for him, and he was about to give the people employment, and keep the council quiet for another month, when unwitnessed the people would have to go elsewhere for it.

Mr. Horne moved and Mr. McKinnie's remarks. The work close handy and been a boon. The present work would be completed soon, and if the road were not carried on further the ratepayers would have to go elsewhere for work. He urged that the work be carried on.

The engineer said the road was a

("Sun Pictorial" Photo.)
The highest possible score at the Citizens' Forces shoot at Williamstown on Friday February 5, was made by Pte. Preston. His 8 shots at 200 yards were perfect. Mr. Crawford lives at 28 Elm St., Northcote, and is 17 years of age.

The Preston branch R.S.S.I.L.A. is still growing fast, as there is a drive in progress to get a Digger's representative in the district to link up. At last night's meeting of the branch 10 new members were enrolled, and the membership is now in the vicinity of 300.

Preston branch of the R.S.S.I.L.A. are to hold a moonlight bay picnic on Saturday next. Only to raise funds for the Distressed Diggers' Fund.

Preston R.S.S.I.L.A. will hold a social and patriotic entertainment on Friday, February 24, at which Mr. E. Turnbull, president of the State branch, will be present. Tickets are to be had from Mr. H. P. Zwar, J.P., a Federal Centre, Cash's Creek-McKinnie road. The committee consisted of Messrs. J. McKinnie, Irvine and W. Sparkes.

Cr. Dyason moved, and Cr. Hinrichsen seconded, that the fruit was poor on account of drought. They had little or no fruit, and what little they did have they had lost by wind storms. A work could not be found for them, and he would give the people employment, and keep the council quiet for another month, when unwitnessed the people would have to go elsewhere for it.

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PRESTON BAND

SUNDAY'S CONCERT AT BELL PARK.

On Sunday next, at 3 p.m., the Preston Citizens' Band will give a concert at Bell Park. This is the first time that the band will have given a Sunday concert at Bell Park and, needless to say, the event is being eagerly anticipated by the residents in that particular part of the city. The band is in very good form, and a splendid programme will be given under the direction of Mr. H. Hoots, all who attend can be assured of a very enjoyable afternoon.

CONTINUING A ROAD

In Whittlesea Shire.

DISTRESSED FRUIT GROWERS MAKE REQUEST.

At the meeting of the Whittlesea Shire Council on Wednesday, a deputation representing the Strathcona Fruit and Jam Preserving Association waited on the council, asking that representatives of the C.R.B. be asked to continue the construction of the Chadd's Creek-McKinnie road. The deputation consisted of Messrs. J. McKinnie, Irvine and W. Sparkes.

Cr. Dyason moved, and Cr. Hinrichsen seconded, that the fruit was poor on account of drought. They had little or no fruit, and what little they did have they had lost by wind storms. A work could not be found for them, and he would give the people employment, and keep the council quiet for another month, when unwitnessed the people would have to go elsewhere for it.

Mr. McKinnie thanked the council for the assistance it had already done in getting the road started. The orchardists had a lot of money tied up in their trees, and if they could be assisted in getting the road completed it would be a boon to Whittlesea.

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Cr. Dyason said that it was not so much a question of sympathy, but Whittlesea Riding had not the money to help pay for the road. If the work was continued, the shire would have to provide the £15 per £1000. If these people could not provide such a provision to pay extra rates, it would be a different thing. They had all sympathy, but still the council had to guard the interests of the shire as a whole.

The motion was carried, Cr. Butler abstaining. In effect the council will engineer report to the C.R.B., and request that the road be continued to the gazetted boundary.

After thanking the council the deputation withdrew.

BOY SCOUTS.

FIRST RESERVOIR TROOP.

First Reservoir Troop of Scouts have purchased a number of bugles and two drums, and they are now a bugle band. Practice is held every Wednesday evening, at the hall, Albert Park, is acting as instructor, and keen interest is being taken in the band by our boys. Mr. Orme has formed a choir among our boys and they are getting ready for a series of entertainments to be held to help the band with fees and purchases. Mr. Green states that he is pleased with the progress made. The choir meet every Tuesday evening. A social will be held in the evening. Wednesday, February 16, when Mr. Smeaton has consented his lectures on first aid to the boys.

B. L. Gates announces purchases of a no deposit extraordinary tailoring offer. See advt. in this issue.

NORTHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL

Department's Shuffling About Building.

SOME CANDID CRITICISM.

The Northcote Council at its meeting on Monday evening received a letter from the Education Office, per Mr. J. Cain, M.L.A., stating in reference to representations by the Northcote City Council, that the Public Works Department advised that the amended plan of the new High School for Northcote was now in course of preparation. As soon as it was completed and submitted to the Education Department, it would receive early consideration.—Received.

The Mayor said that the Government had agreed to erect the building provided the municipalities interested provided £2000, half cost of the land. This was found, and the council had been assured by Messrs. Hannon and Lowry that the school would be erected at an early date. The land had gone by, and the school was not up yet. He believed that a promise had been brought to bear, the school would not be erected this year. There were now a considerable number of pupils, and at the end of the year there would be three times the original number. If that were so, more temporary buildings would be required, and a large field of experience behind the Education Department would be lost. He was assured that the matter was only a large field of experience behind the Education Department would be lost. He was assured that the matter was only a large field of experience behind the Education Department would be lost. He was assured that the matter was only a large field of experience behind the Education Department would be lost. He was assured that Mr. Cain be asked to make further representations.

Cr. Olver seconded, and said he would like other councils to join in the matter. He moved that a joint letter be sent from the Northcote, Preston and Thornbury councils.

Cr. Butler said that it was not so much a question of sympathy, but Whittlesea Riding had not the money to help pay for the road. If the work was continued, the shire would have to provide the £15 per £1000. If these people could not provide such a provision to pay extra rates, it would be a different thing. They had all sympathy, but still the council had to guard the interests of the shire as a whole.

The motion was carried, Cr. Butler abstaining. In effect the council will engineer report to the C.R.B., and request that the road be continued to the gazetted boundary.

After thanking the council the deputation withdrew.

BOY SCOUTS.

FIRST RESERVOIR TROOP.

First Reservoir Troop of Scouts have purchased a number of bugles and two drums, and they are now a bugle band. Practice is held every Wednesday evening, at the hall, Albert Park, is acting as instructor, and keen interest is being taken in the band by our boys. Mr. Orme has formed a choir among our boys and they are getting ready for a series of entertainments to be held to help the band with fees and purchases. Mr. Green states that he is pleased with the progress made. The choir meet every Tuesday evening. A social will be played on Saturday next, and a social will be held in the evening, February 16, when Mr. Smeaton has consented his lectures on first aid to the boys.

B. L. Gates announces purchases of a no deposit extraordinary tailoring offer. See advt. in this issue.

PROGRESS ASSOCIATIONS

NORTHCOTE WEST WARD.

The monthly meeting of the Northcote West Ward Progress Association was held on Tuesday evening, February 8, in the Council Hall, Station street, Owing to the holiday on the previous day the attendance was not up to the usual numbers. It was decided to form a vigilance committee to attend the council meetings and make reports to the association. This committee will be changed every month, and it is hoped by this means to encourage ratepayers who have hitherto refrained from taking part in municipal matters to become interested. A conference of all Northcote Progress Associations is being called to discuss the question of the abolition of hoardings in the city and various other matters affecting the city in general. A similar conference is being arranged with Preston Association for the purpose of endeavoring to get the West Preston electric tram extended to Edwardes Park lake. It is with pride that the secretary can state that with the exception of a few small matters still in abeyance all requests submitted to the council and other organisations have been acceded to, thus proving the value of the association to the ratepayers. The committee desire to see larger attendances at the meetings, and all residents are asked to make an effort to attend the meetings, which are held on the first Tuesday of the month.

CHURCH NEWS.

The Right Reverend J. D. Langley, D.D., late Bishop of Bendigo, will preach at All Saints' Church of England on Sunday evening next.

The choir at the Church of the Brethren on Sunday evening rendered the anthems "God so loved the world," from Stainer's "Crucifixion," the preliminary tenor solo being taken by Mr. D. Ramsden. The deep solemnity of the words and the sonorous music, together with the perfect rendering, was enjoyed by a large congregation. The vicar (Rev. T. Cole) preached from the words: "The way of peace have they not known" (Romans iii.-17). It was the Creator's desire that we should be in the way of peace, and not of war. Peace. The church was not a kill joy. When our Saviour was on earth, although He was a man of deep sorrow and anguish, yet he entered into the joy and happiness of the people among whom he ministered. The real kill-joy was sin. In a life or home or community where there was sin, wrangling and strife there was no peace. Again the simple section could form a successful association of its own.

Taken Too Cheaply.

Mr. Thirkell thought the movement had been taken too cheaply, and the association was going to be any good, it would bring traders in 10/- per week for their 1/- To do this it must be given a fair chance and reasonable time. Some people paid 5/- per week for slides at the picture theatres, which were shown when the theatres were empty.

Mr. Cohen moved—That the Northcote Traders' Association be continued in its present form.

Seconded by Mr. Emmerson.

Mr. Harriman said he could not see what all the pessimism was about. All that was wrong was that they had lost their secretary. A week before Christmas the association was going swimmingly. A fortnight later some people had said the association was a failure. In his opinion all that was wanted was a man to collect.

He pointed out that no traders would open a shop and expect to do a payday business in a fortnight. Some traders expected the association to show a big return the first week or so. What they should do was to give the movement a chance.

Mr. Loeden said that Mr. Harriman was rather optimistic.

Mr. E. Robertson said he saw no reason why the association could not carry on. The onus was on enthusiastic members to get new ones after fees in advance. This would greatly relieve the secretary, and allow him more time to see people who would not pay in advance. It would also enable new members to be chosen. Mr. Smith said he would vote against the association carrying on as at present.

At this stage the motion was put, 17 voting for its continuance and three voting against.

Election of Officers.

The meeting then proceeded to the ensuing 12 months' election of officers:—

President—Cr. Phill. Mayer (re-elected).

Vice-Presidents—Cr. Hayes and Cr. Cain.

Hon. Secretary—Mr. A. W. Emmerson.

Hon. Treasurer—Mr. H. J. Dickinson.

Committee.—(Croston section)—Messrs. H. Cook (senr.), J. Cuttle, and T. Doran; (Northcote section)—W. S. Nicholas, G. E. Law and G. Pratt.

The election of Westgarth and Thornbury office-bearers was left in the hands of committees appointed for that purpose.

Increase in Subscriptions.

Mr. Mott moved that subscriptions be increased from 6d. 1/- and 2/6 to 1/- 2/6 and 5/- weekly. Seconded by Mr. W. Tharratt.

An amendment was moved by Mr. Cook that the subscriptions be 1/- 2/- and 5/-. This was seconded by Mr. Robertson, a brief discussion ensued, and the amendment were defeated.

Mr. Emmerson moved, Mr. Neelands seconded, that the 6d rate be deleted from the list of charges and the lowest subscription be made 1/-. This was carried.

A meeting of the new executive will be held at an early date, a full report of which will appear in the "Leader."

CORRESPONDENCE.

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—Re Traders' Association. I was a member of the above and quite willing to remain one, however—First Class Honors—Francis Scott, Aubrey Nicholas, Ivy Bennett, Beatrice Cox, Constance Cole, Molly Brownell. Second Class Honors—Phoebe Scott, Keith Oliver, Sidney Singleton, Jerry Jackson, David Cox, Joyce Cole, Greye Cox, Catherine Cotter, Irene Alms, Fraser, Jack Oxley, Lew Travers, Stella Morrant, Hugo Holmes, Stanley Butterfield, Ivy Dunstan.

Pass.—Gywn Harris, Wallis Stone, Ronald Hall, Ronald Hall, Hazel Hastam, Frank Crossley, Florrie Brewer, Albert Lowe, Lal Twite, Nancy Seeding, Ronald Bennett, Lowland Hastam, Ida Bradley, Betty Bowen.

Northcote Baptist Church.

The Rev. Lewis Raverty was welcomed back to his pastorate by the members of the congregation on Sunday morning, and after thanking those who had assisted to keep the work going during his holidays, he preached on "The Heritage of the Baptists," "Though," he said, "boasting is foolish and childish, we Baptists could lay claim to certain things of which we might be proud. Not only is the Baptist denomination the largest Protestant denomination throughout the world, but it has suffered persecution more than any other denomination. Even in the Australian commonwealth throughout the world is strong, and we owe it to Christ, let us remember that the Northcote Baptist Church is only as strong as its weakest member."

Dr. W. H. Hinrichsen, who for over six years has been the minister of the Church of Christ, Hight street, Northcote, has resigned his position. His medical practice has grown rapidly and now takes up the whole of his time, and although he intends continuing to take a live interest in the activities of the church, Dr. Hinrichsen feels that he has not been a faithful preacher, a sound and earnest teacher, and an ever-welcome visitor to members and friends, and it has been with feelings of deep regret that he has been released from his engagement.

Mr. J. C. B. Plimmer, who has been appointed to succeed him, comes of a family of preachers, his aged father and four brothers being strong, able and earnest advocates for primitive Christianity. Mr. Plimmer is a widely-read much-travelled man, with a winning personality, and in addition to having the support of the whole of the churches in Victoria and South Australia, has had wide experience with the troops in the recent Great War. He was a padre for nearly three years, first as lieutenant, and later with the rank of Captain. For some time he was visitor to the hospital in the southern counties of England, and was recalled by the O.P.D., Brandenstein, afterwards accompanying the troops to Egypt. It is understood that Mr. Plimmer will be in Northcote, following forward to gaining much benefit in the meantime from his visitation. Residents of Northcote can rest assured that in Mr. Plimmer they have a most able and worthy addition to the ministerium of ministers in this important district.

Doctors can't hide from you the fact that you are very, very ill. Is there anyone you'd like to see? Tuberculosis Victoria Limited.

NORTHCOTE TRADERS' ASSOCIATION

MOVEMENT TO BE CARRIED ON.

A general meeting of the Northcote Traders' Association was held in the Northcote Town Hall on Thursday evening, February 3, at 8 o'clock. Five hundred circulars were distributed in High street, and the response at the meeting was very disappointing, only 25 people being present.

Mr. W. S. Neelands was elected to the chair, and he explained that at a meeting held two weeks ago, at which 21 people were present, it was decided that the annual meeting take place in February, and arranged at the inception of the movement.

For the information of those who were not at the previous meeting Mr. Loeden explained that an association had been brought about by the resignation of the secretary (Dr. J. L. Dunlop). Mr. Dickinson was appointed secretary pro tem. The action of Dr. Dunlop had been prompted by the lack of interest and enthusiasm shown by the general public, and the difficulty experienced in collecting the contributions.

Object of the Meeting.

The chairman added that the position resolved itself into the question: "Are we progressing or are we not?" He explained that in the first week 15 members had become out, since then several more had done so. Shopkeepers did not realise the position they were in. Northcote was the only suburb without a traders' association. Thornbury had a very strong association, and Preston was also strong. Northcote, however, was a great tendency for people to go to the city, which to some extent the association, if properly run, would help to prevent. He would not like to see the association go down, as he thought they would be in opposition to each other.

What Has Been Achieved.

Mr. G. H. Mott said that in his opinion the association up to date had done a very good business. Shopkeepers admitted that the past Christmas had been much better than the previous one. He had received from some traders said, each Christmas was worse than the previous one. The record Christmas spoke well for the association. The Father Christmas "stunt" had also been successful, as children and parents to High street, the suggestion that a committee room be any be appointed and the services of a paid collector be obtained.

Mr. Cohen said he did not think it possible for the association to carry on as at present.

Running Expenses.

Mr. Cook junior said the cost of running the association had been too great and traders were somewhat impatient and expected big results too quickly. He was a member of the association through out the world is strong, and so we was that it is doing good work for Christ, let us remember that the Northcote Baptist Church is only as strong as its weakest member."

Dr. W. H. Hinrichsen, who for over six years has been the minister of the Church of Christ, High street, has resigned his position. His medical practice has grown rapidly and now takes up the whole of his time, and although he intends continuing to take a live interest in the activities of the church, Dr. Hinrichsen feels that he has not been a faithful preacher, a sound and earnest teacher, and an ever-welcome visitor to members and friends, and it has been with feelings of deep regret that he has been released from his engagement.

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FOR THE LADIES

TOILET HINTS.

DAILY CARE OF THE SKIN.

Girls who are round with difficulty as the getting up hour may well envy those who awake, like the proverbial lark, early, as a feeling of real rest refreshed and full of energy. I know that their secret is the wake-up sweary girls, fool; but the harder one's bed pulls the harder one must resist. But ironing for five minutes more, which if yielded to means a hurried toilet, a gobbled breakfast, and a rush for bus and train. Nothing sooner shows the result of neglect more quickly than the skin. Unless properly cared for every day it becomes dingy through the unchanged condition of the pores. A beauty specialist tells me she was amazed at the amount of dirt her cleansing treatment brought away from the patients' faces. Every girl should possess a jar of good cleansing cream, put plenty of it on at bedtime, leave it on while she makes ready for bed, and with a soft piece of Turkish towelling—an old one will do just as well—and a little lukewarm water rub it off. Then go to bed. Get up five minutes earlier next morning

SCOTTISH CONCERT
ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT.

Next Wednesday, at the Northcote Town Hall, the Northcote and Preston Scottish Society will hold its usual monthly concert, when a programme of outstanding merit will be given. The committee state that only the best is good enough for its concerts, and the artists who will appear on Wednesday night, are all in the front rank of the musical world in Melbourne. The artists will include Mr. Walter Burleigh, Mr. Fred Wainford, Mr. Edwin R. Hooke, Mr. Claude Schilling, and Mr. Jas. Williamson. Pipe selections will be given by the society's Champion Pipe Band, who are the holders of the championships of Victoria and New South Wales. The winning of tazes two champion ships was no mean feat, and it goes to show that the blood of the Scots and the love of the pipes, is pretty strongly implanted in the Australian. Highland dancing will be given by the Northcote Scots Party, the members of which always do their share to make the monthly concerts so enjoyable.

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NORTHCOTE COUNCIL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7.

The usual meeting of the Northcote City Council was held on Monday evening. There were present the Mayor (Cr. P. Mayer) and Crs. S. Smith, A. C. Beard, W. H. Turner, W. Oliver, J. Cain, J. L. Dunlop, W. Hayes, J. Burch, J. A. Gibbs, H. Mc-Gill, A. McDonald and W. Glanfield. Apologies were received from Crs. B. E. Johnson and J. Timmins.

Proposed New Bus Route.

Public Works Department, forwarding an application by George Stanley Jeffrey for a bus route between Epping and Dundas street, Thornbury. Referred through Item E.

The Mayor said the route was not in Northcote territory.

The letter was received.

Telephone Charges.

Frank Sleeman, M.H.R., re application of Ringwood Council in respect to telephone charges for outer metropolitan areas, stating he had made representations to the P.M.G., and had been told the matter was under policy and was being considered.

There was also a copy of a letter from the P.M.G. Department, re charges for calls within an outer metropolitan area, stating that circumstances did not permit of the adoption of a tariff of 4d for a distance of 20 miles to and from places within the outer metropolitan radius. The charge at present is 6d, which is very reasonable. In England and America charges for trunk calls of 60 miles were 7d and 10d respectively, whilst in Australia it was 4d.

The letters were received.

Preston Tip.

Town clerk, City of Preston, re refuse tip in Oakover road, Preston, stating that special efforts were being made to get rid of the Preston refuse.

Cr. Beard moved that the sanitary inspector be asked to supply a report, so that the matter could be dealt with by committee of the whole.—Carried.

Tree Planters' Association.

Secretary Victorian Tree Planters' Association, drawing attention to notice of meeting to be held at Kew Town Hall on arch 14 to 17, and asking that curator be allowed to attend, as also conference, and that a lecture on educational value.—Parks Committee.

Closing Hours of Newsagents' Shops.

Department of Labour stating a petition had been received from keepers of bookstalls and newsagents' shops in Northcote, favoring the fixing of certain hours for closing such shops. It was requested by the Department that a certificate from the town clerk be forwarded as to the number of such shops in Northcote and the number of signatories to the petition.

A letter war also received from the Victorian Retail Booksellers' Protection Association on the same matter, urging that the town clerk's report be made as soon as possible.—Referred to Council.

East Ward Progress Association.

Secretary East Ward Progress Association, requesting that another half day, or perhaps a day, be set aside for sports and gifts at the school.

Attention was also drawn to use of bad language and offensive behavior at the East Ward Park.

First portion referred to Parks Committee. Second portion in now being dealt with.

Cleanliness of High Street.

A. E. Morris, High street, Northcote, drawing attention to the necessity of street sweeping in High street, which carried a larger percentage of horse traffic the claimed than any other street in the suburban area. He also stated that High street was in bad watered, whilst other streets were.—Public Works Committee.

West Ward Progress Association.

Secretary West Ward Progress Association, a number of requests—(1) that holes in road, Rennie street, be filled; (2) attention to culvert and drains in Shaftesbury Parade, west of St. George's road; (3) that north (2) asking what was being done re lighting of Trafford-way; (4) asking that numbering of houses and flats in St. George's road be carried out correctly. Many residents did not know the number of their own building.

Items 1 and 2 were sent to Public Works Committee and 3 to Electric Light Committee.

Cr. Turner asked what was the position re the numbering of St. George's road.

The Mayor said that an officer was now doing the numbering, and a second check of the work had been taken place. It would be completed as soon as possible.

Cr. Turner said the position was very confusing. He found that the numbers had been added to re-dilve the matter.

Cr. Beard seconded, and said that it was out of sight mess since the work was first brought up. He was surprised that it was not finished.

The motion was carried.

Conveniences, McDonell Park.

Daniel Dooley, Clifton street, Northcote, asking that conveniences be not erected at rear of shed at McDonell Park, as they would be seen from his door. He suggested that the present shed be shifted, and a bigger one erected near the drain, which would be better for all concerned.—Parks Committee.

Cr. Hayes drew attention to the necessity and advisability of making this shed larger. There were often 12 teams on the ground, and the shed was very small. Mr. Dooley had offered to hold the keys and look after the shed for the council.

The Mayor said that the council was considering the erection of conveniences, and also the enlarging of the shed.

Fitzroy Cricket Ground.

Secretary Fitzroy Cricket Club enclosing an intimation from the Under-Secretary for Lands that the Minister now proposed to reserve 3a. 1r. 7p. of land, portion of the Old Benevolent Retreat, on the Merri Creek, for recreation purposes, to be placed under the control of the City of Northcote as a management committee, which in return would be expected to arrange with the Fitzroy Cricket Club for the use of five acres, and keep the reserve available at certain times for scholars of the adjoining High School. (The letter was signed by the Under-Secretary of Lands). In conclusion the club's letter expressed the hope that the cordial relations which had marked the joint parks committee would long continue.

—Held over pending report of subcommittee appointed to consider the matter.

GENERAL.

Metropolitan Board of Works, under date February 1, notifying council that work of excavating and rubbing in connection with lowering of water main in Jenkins street, between Victoria road and St. David street, would be started at an early date.—Referred to surveyor.

Metropolitan Board of Works, a communication stating that Cr. G. Dennis would retire as a Board of Works Commissioner at the end of February, as his term had expired, owing to effluxion of time.—To be made an order of the day for next meeting.

Public Health Department, copy of amending Health Act rerulations.—Finance Committee.

Metropolitan Town Planning Commission, stating Northcote's contribution this year would be £62, as against £62 11 - last year.—Finance Committee.

Joint secretaries Federated Municipal and Shire Employes' Union asking for Council to forward £1 per annual picnic.—Finance Committee.

Joanne C. L. Boustrice, corner Kim and Latham streets, requesting that footpath be made in Elm street, in front of her place.—Referred to Public Ward members.

P. E. Ridout, Dundas street, submitting plan of subdivision.—Public Works Committee.

R. James, Best street, Northcote, seeking permission to build on land 20 ft. 120, Gladstone street.—Public Works Committee, inspector to report.

W. H. Gubby, Mansfield street, Northcote, drawing attention to the fact that footpath had been lowered, and the shield on water tap had not been replaced.—Surveyor for attention.

Wm. Wood, Westearth street, Northcote, application to erect dwelling behind shop.—Public Works Committee.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

Cr. Dennis moved that accounts totalling £3,352-1-1 be passed.—Carried.

Cr. Dennis said there may have been some mistake made. The matter was reported to the Public Works Committee, and there was a cross fail of about 4ft. 6in. The idea of the committee was that one street be made one way, and the other a no-thoroughfare, so that quarry traffic could travel with as little inconvenience as possible to the residents, and Cullen street had proposed to be that street. The new plant was put on it. The Public Works Committee gave authority for this work, and if there was any criticism it should be taken to committee.

The Mayor presented to Cr. J. Sutch an illuminated address as a memento of his ayoral term 1925-26. The Mayor said Cr. Sutch had served the citizens well and faithfully, and had at differ ent times been chairman of almost all the committees. Both the Mayor and Mayoress had carried out their duties faithfully and well, and he trusted they would be long spared.

In responding Cr. Sutch said he had tried to give everyone a fair go. The Mayoress had done all she could, and he felt she gave satisfaction.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Tenders, construction of Benjamin street, Hirch street and lanes.

Cr. Dennis moved that the tender of T. Goldsworthy for £4,610/4/- be accepted.—Carried. (Estimate £4,572)

Tenders, construction Sharps street.—Tender of S. Collins for £1,814/1/3 accepted. Estimate £1,350/7/4.

Construction Winifred street.—Tender of J. Goldsworthy for £1,519 accepted, subject to consent of the Metropolitan Board of Works.

It was decided to invite fresh tenders for the construction of Hartley and Hawkes streets.

CYCLING.

(By C. A. A. Schwaebach.)

One of the most striking features of the cycle carnivals held at the Exhibition every Saturday evening is the sustained enthusiasm and growing interest displayed by the large crowds that attend. It is remarkable the number of ladies attracted by the cycle racing, is the grandstand they outnumber the men. They are short in picking out notable riders, quick to criticise faulty performances, and show approval of excellent and skilful riding, besides expressing admiration of many of the feats of athletic manhood.

The excitement as events proceeded was intense; each item seemed to have some new feature. But none more so wonderful as the great performance of the first scratch race for 5c Gilbud street, and notice of same be given in the Northcote Leader.—Carried.

Cr. Oldis said he had no objection to the street being called Elder street, but the East Ward members should have been consulted.

Purchase of land for quarry extension.—That it is agreed to accept offer of Mr. E. Lesser for portion of land having a frontage to Collins street of 207 feet 6 inches, by a depth of 200 ft., for £500.

Under closing streets.—That city surveyor be instructed to close the following streets against traffic as occasion may arise:—Rennie street, Elm, and notice be given to the public accordingly, viz.—St. George's road, Arthurton road, and Ag Rigby street.—Carried.

Cr. Gibbard is now the all round champion of Victoria. He has won four championships this year; he is second in points for the other six points, Amott third with four points; Opperman fourth with three.

The champion has done an excellent cycle and brilliant riding in scratch events this season, and is the best all round rider in Victoria to-day. Ford and Amott have both been very consistent in high class racing, but Parmley, who was riding as an amateur a few weeks ago is a big surprise, he is showing a dash and a wonderful power. Opperman has not shown too good form in classic events.

For fourteen years championships have been conducted without a time limit, and consequently competitors have crawled along in these contests, known as "Continental style," and finished up with a big spirt, and won by what is called "tactics." So unimportant and uninteresting have championships become that a winner of three events was scarcely known. It was possible for a rider to ride a heat or two a lap, and pacing tandems would put championships in a proper position. If riders cannot show stamina and speed he has no claims for honors in a classic event. The ten miles championship of Victoria was a striking example of high class racing. The tandem pacers made the pace so fast it was was only first race riders who could show dash and judgment at critical moments of high speed. It was a slashing race from start to finish. Rarely has such a contest been witnessed at the Exhibition. Early in the race as the tandem pacers changed over and the riders got into fresh positions, some brilliant work and speed was shown, and the crowd screamed with delight as their favorites came to the front places. In the eighteenth lap all the second [illegible] Gilbud and Parmley were left to fight out the finish.

Parmley was very successful on Saturday night. He won the Half Mile Handicap in 35 4-5 secs, and his magnificent sprint in both the semi and final caused some amazement. His competitors seemed to be standing still as he shot out in both events at terrific speed. He also won the three miles motor paced handicap from scratch in 5 min. 37 4-5 secs.

E. Gibbard with W. Smith was the pace behind tandem race in 1 min. 17 secs. The finish was well contested, and it was a most interesting race.

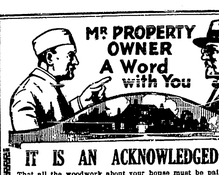
A match race paced by motors was decided to take place between Opperman and Amott, but the riders disagreed over the distances they were to run. It ended in a fiasco and was struck out. The sooner the carnivals eliminate this class of contest from the programmes the better it will be for the sport. These mechanically assisted races in matches are not the sort of athletes, nor do they produce dedicated champions like Gilbud. The money may lure some good riders to this disappointing class of contest.

WEDDING.

ASLING—SMITH.

A pretty wedding was celebrated at Holy Trinity, Thornbury, on January 22, when Edna, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. Smith, Arthurton road, Northcote, was married to Charles, third son of Mr. and Mrs. Asling, "Sea View," Narre Warren, the Rev. Waverley officiating. The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in an early Victorian gown of white georgette and silver ribbon. Her veil of tulle was held in place by a band of pearls and orange blossom, and a bouquet of white carnations was carried. The bridesmaids (Miss Alice Hannaford and Miss Beatrix Marshall) looked pretty in gowns of mauve and black georgette, trimmed with silver lace. They carried shower bouquets. Mr. Norman King (Blackburn) and Mr. Will Jacobs (Parkdale) were best man and groomsman respectively. A reception was afterwards held in the Dempsey Hall, where breakfast was served to sixty guests. Dancing, singing and games ended to make the evening a pleasant one. The happy couple are spending their honeymoon touring Gippsland.

Angry wife (addressing husband, and waving saucepan that had boiled dry)—"Too much trouble for you to watch it, I suppose; sitting there like King Alfred, looking for more to do, while the bottom of the saucepan burns out."



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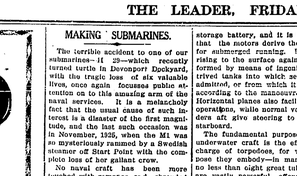
Marvels of Wireless
By "LOUD SPEAKER"
RADIO FREQUENCY AMPLIFICATION.—No. 5.
TRANSFORMER COUPLING.
The second method of coupling radio frequency amplifying valves to be discussed is the transformer. This method is as old as the tuned anode, but until recently was not so popular as it was thought it did not give the same amplification and selectivity. However, the position is different to-day, as far more is known about the design and correct working of "Leader" transformers, and it is possible with an efficient component used in conjunction with a valve of suitable characteristics to obtain at least equally as good amplification and selectivity with the addition of other advantages, such as greater stability.
A radio frequency transformer consists of a coil, known as the primary, placed in the anode circuit in series with that of the valve, and magnetically coupled to the coil in the grid circuit of the next valve, which is called the secondary. Either the primary or the secondary may be tuned by means of a variable condenser connected across it, but it is the general practice to tune the secondary only, as this gives more stable arrangement than tuning the primary. Occasionally a condenser in the primary nor secondary is tuned in order to reduce the number of tuning controls, but it is looked at the expense of some efficiency.
The action of a transformer is quite simple. The oscillatory currents in the anode of the valve set up voltage differences in the primary coil which are induced into the secondary coil, and are impressed on the grid, which is in the grid circuit of the next valve. These oscillatory currents cause voltage fluctuations on the grid, which are then amplified. No current will be induced from the secondary coil until it is tuned to the same wavelength as the received signal, as the oscillations in the anode of the first valve are of this frequency.
If the secondary is tuned it will of course have to have the correct number of turns to enable it to tune to the received wavelength, as the number of turns in the primary varies considerably in different practices. Sometimes it has the same number of turns as the secondary, and sometimes it has as low as one turn to the number. The coupling between the primary and secondary also varies, some transformers being tight coupled and others loose coupled. As a rule is generally that loosening the coupling is more or less the same as reducing the number of turns in the primary, so the best number of turns for a particular coupling is found only by experiment. For a given coupling, the fewer turns used the better the selectivity, but the volume will be reduced. If the number is increased, volume will be increased, but the point beyond which no further improvement will occur. By experiment, a point is reached where good volume is obtained with good selectivity.
The best transformers on the market are the result of extensive investigation, and will be found to give good volume and selectivity, notably the famous High Frequency Transformer, which has a ratio of 1:2 with a centre tap for use with neutralising circuits. Although the ratio of the primary and secondary is the same, but as the primary is centre tapped, only half acts as the primary, the other half being the neutralising coil. If produces a step-up effect which is highly appreciated, and it may be used as a 1:1 ratio transformer. The use of a neutralised circuit is recommended as otherwise full advantage of radio frequency amplification cannot be obtained, owing to the other and more insidious methods of stabilising having to be resorted to.
It is important that a valve of a exact impedance should be used with the transformer, as otherwise best amplification and selectivity will not be obtained. The impedance is the anode circuit of the valve has to be at least equal to three times the impedance of the valve in order for the latter to give best amplification. Therefore, when loose coupled transformers or transformer with a tap on the primary are used, valves should be employed, as the impedance of the anode circuit is low. With a close coupled transformer and a 1:1 ratio, a high impedance valve may be used.
As most modern transformers have either a step up ratio, or are loose coupled in order to obtain best results in selectivity, low impedance valves will be most suitable for use with them.


A new footbridge across Merri Creek at Moreland road east. Existing bridge is to be removed. The new bridge will cost £650, and the cost will be apportioned between the Northcote, Coburg and Brunswick Councils. ("Sun Pictorial" Photo.)

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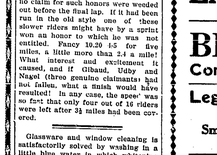
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MAKING SUBMARINES.

The terrible accident to one of our submarines—H. 29—which recently turned turtle in Devonport Dockyard, with the tragic loss of two valuable lives, once again focusses public attention on the many hazards of our naval services. It is a melancholy fact that the usual cause of such losses is not enemy action, but magnetic mine, and the last such occasion was in November, 1918, when the H. 32 was mysteriously rammed by a Swedish steamer off Start Point with the complete loss of her gallant crew.
No naval craft has been more touched with romance, nor shrouded with secrecy than the submarine. The early types were purely experimental, and accidents and mishaps were frequent with them. In fact, the many officers and men who handled, tested and "tried out" our pioneer submarines never knew which moment would be their last. It is upon this patient and courageous service that the fine traditions and marvellous efficiency of our modern submarine fleet has been built up.
Naval brains were forced to develop to a greater degree than the underwater craft. What is termed the increase in size and power of battleships, cruisers, and destroyers, they have not been forthcoming in the offensive force. One can realise this fact clearly from the fact that a single H. boats with their 440-500 tons displacement are amongst our smallest submarines. In 1902 some of our earliest types displaced about 122 tons. What the increase in tonnage has taken the astounding figure of 1,800 tons is not known. This merely indicates that the naval silence has seen to it that every other factor such as armament, speed, radius of action, strength, and the numerous other items of equipment have made considerable advances.
Briefly put, the hull of a submarine is, roughly, cigar-shaped, and is therefore amazingly intricate in mechanism. When working on the surface of the sea she is propelled by petrol or Diesel engines of very considerable power. These engines create heat and poisonous exhaust gases. Both are objectionable. During surface running the internal combustion engines are working dynamos which charge a vast storage battery, and it is from this that the motors derive their current for submerged running. Diving and rising to the surface again are performed by means of ingeniously contrived tanks into which sea water is admitted, or from which it is ejected according to the manoeuvre required. Horizontal planes also facilitate these operations, while normal vertical rudders bring the vessel up to port or starboard.
The fundamental purpose of these underwater craft is the efficient discharge of torpedoes, for which purpose they embody—in many cases—no less than eight great tubes. These are vastly powerful offensive weapons. Their function is to attack. That was the first reading of them, but during the war this idea became considerably modified. Up to that time all submarines had been small ships which depended for their supplies, etc., upon "mother ships," which accompanied them. This restricted their mobility very considerably, and in the subsequent evolution of a perfectly self-contained vessel the famous K boats were produced. These were, without doubt, the most astounding underwater boats the world had ever seen. With 3,500 tons displacement, steam surface propulsion, fought on 22 feet, surface and submerged speeds of 24 and 9 knots respectively, five guns, eight torpedo tubes, and a full complement of 65 souls, they were truly wonderful efforts of British design and construction. They were designed as submarine destroyers. At present there are no submarines larger than the 1,800 ton marine construction, and we may certainly look forward to some astoundingly startling variations of the submarine battleship.

CYCLING.

TIME LIMITS AND FAST SPEEDS.

An interesting discussion has recently taken place between Australian Carnivals (the promoters of the Exhibition Carnivals) and Mr. C. A. A. Schwaebach, the chairman of the Victorian Board of former cyclists, whose duties consist of advising the riders and promoters, and of generally improving the sport. As a result steps were adopted to speed up on the Saturday" on January 22, which were most successful. Salient points of the discussion follow:—
Mr. Schwaebach said that the Australian, Mr. Hall, Hall, Northcote. Next meeting—Feb. 17. A. C. Williams, secretary, corner Normanby Av. and St. George's Road.

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THE SEASON'S GREETINGS.

Once again, standing on the threshold of another year, we pause to review the past. At such a time we are conscious of a feeling of gratitude to you for the very real support you have given us during the past year. It has indeed been a perpetual source of encouragement to us to know that our best endeavors have earned your appreciation.

You may rest assured that our aim in the future will be to give you even better and better service. To that end we commit ourselves unreservedly.

We thank you very sincerely for your kind patronage, and take pleasure in wishing you a very bright and prosperous New Year.

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TRADE FOLLOWS THE PLANE.

(By an Englishman.)

One short cut to the recovery of our lost prosperity lies in the air, and the fast mail plane is the best "salesman" that British goods can have in overseas markets. This article shows how our commerce can profit from the feats of the pioneers of flight.

On January 1 the first regular air mail between Egypt and India commenced, and will considerably shorten the time for letters to reach India and vice versa. It could have been started at least six years ago. Then, the question of an air-mail from Egypt to the Cape of Good Hope is "under consideration."

Britain stands to gain more by the rapid carriage by air of letters, business documents, contracts and commercial travellers themselves than any other country. It is amazing that this fact has not been grasped sooner.

Speeding Up Commerce.

Probably no single step could be taken at such comparatively slight cost to assist British commerce as the carriage of mails to India by three days, instead of three weeks, and to Australia in six days instead of six weeks. Cables are expensive and, for business purposes, not always satisfactory. Some of our best customers in the Argentine, in China, and the Union of South Africa, India is our most important customer in the whole world, and is the chief and principal market for the purchase of British manufactured goods.

Anything to speed up the carriage of business papers, samples, engineering plans and specifications must help commerce. There are no technical difficulties in the way. The modern large three-engined aeroplane is perfectly reliable in the air, and practically immune from accidents.

Conquerors of the Storm.

Aeroplanes are no longer fair-weather craft. In the early part of this summer we experienced terrific gales in the South of England, and the cross Channel boat services were actually interrupted. When the wind and the waves were so violent that steamers could not put to sea, the aeroplanes flew without mishap with passengers and mails from Croydon to Paris and back.

The great advantages of the aeroplane over the steamer and the railway train are that it can speed the fact that it can fly direct from point to point like a crow, and that a lot of time is saved through not having to stop at different frontiers for Customs examination and formalities connected with visas and passports. These hurdles become greater the longer the distance flown.

There are no mechanical or physical difficulties to-day to prevent a regular air-mail service being established immediately between London and Sydney, Australia, flying by way of Egypt, India, and Singapore.

Time Saved Per Cent.

The actual cost has been worked out on the basis of the running expenses of the existing air lines, and it has been calculated that a biweekly air service starting on alternate days from England and Australia and vice versa, would only cost one shilling per letter.

Many business documents carry with them bills of exchange, cheques, transfers, etc., usually carry interest, and on the large sums involved in present day commerce the saving of stamial it is true that money may not be saved for cable, but this is an expensive method. The actual saving of money in the case of air-mail were used, would be very great, and in many cases would just make the difference between profit and loss.

It would also help commerce very considerably to shorten the time needed to send invoices, catalogues, contracts, and descriptions of goods from merchants to customers and from manufacturers to merchants. To-day the American buyer can interchange over us in the Australian market, owing to their better and shorter mail service from San Francisco to Australia and New Zealand. We can make up for this by the development of air-mails.

The same applies to a great extent to Africa. A regular air-mail service would start from the great port of Alexandria in Egypt, and may be way of Cairo, Nairobi, the capital of British East Africa, and Johannesburg. These great inland air routes could be established forthwith and at comparatively trifling expense, as there will not be long before mails can be received by people touching the Atlantic between Europe and America in two days, and this would help business considerably.

Communications between India, China and Canada are of great importance. The shortest route between Canada and Asia by air is across the North Pole. This cuts off a horseback journey for mail, and saves many thousands of miles.

Let Britain Lead.

The recent flights across Norwegian, Amundsen, in his airship, and the Italian airmen in their aeroplane have demonstrated the feasibility of the Arctic route. Climatic conditions are even and air currents regular.

So it is quite safe to prophesy that in a few years' time the regular route by air from London to China and India will be by air over the North Pole. The pioneering work has been done by Norwegians and American. But we British can now step in and develop this route as a commercial possibility.

We have the most reliable aeroplane engines and the finest pilots in the whole world. Then, in addition to the commercial advantages of the great aeroplane routes I have mentioned, their establishment would enhance British prestige. Think of the effect on the natives of Egypt and Africa of a regular British airline flying from north to south of the Dark Continent!

Another good result would be the provision of a trained reserve of pilots for the Royal Air Force. The British Empire was founded on sea power. It must be still further developed, consolidated, and enriched by taking advantage of man's conquest of the air and his discovery of flight.

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Scientists are eagerly searching for a clue to the mystery of dreams. Do they mean nothing, or are they sent to warn and guide us?

Science has only recently occupied itself with that mysterious realm into which we pass when we close our eyes in sleep. Dreamland was formerly not regarded as worthy of the attention of serious investigators. It is otherwise to-day, when more and more inquiries are gathering facts—startling facts sometimes—concerning dreams.

Certain marvellous things are now known beyond all doubt concerning dreamland. First, there are a great number of thoroughly authenticated cases of dreams which have predicted future events. Then there are also an equally impressive number of dreams which have given the dreamer clairvoyant sight, or the ability to see events happening far off at the moment of the dream.

Tragedies That Cast Shadows Before.

A strange example of the prophetic or premonitory dream is related by Dr. E. Bensyn, the medical man who dreamt that his favorite child fell from the top of a tram car and broke his neck. So powerful was the dream that he rose and went to look at the child, who was sleeping peacefully.

Next day the dream warning of the child's death became clearer. He examined the child, but found it perfectly healthy. The day after, however, a tram car ran over the youngster's leg, and ended fatally.

Was this mere coincidence or a dreamland vision of the future?

Seven years ago an old lady, living in Philadelphia, dreamt that she saw her son crushed to death by a street steamer. She awoke, slept, and again dreamt of her son's tragic death. So powerful was the dream that she took train to New York, where he lived. She arrived in the morning, left the station, and was crossing Seventh Avenue, when she saw a crowd about a dead man. It was her son, and he had been run over by a tramcar.

The victim of this tragedy was Mr. William Cooper, a millionaire manufacturer, and the case has been thoroughly authenticated by the Society for French scientist, Camille Flammarion.

Many of the present writer's dreams prophesying death ended to be about Christmas.

Perhaps in a few years' time the patient investigator of the romantic realm of sleep will furnish with some explanation of such strange dreams. Meanwhile one is left wondering, with no answer at all.

Magistrate (severely)—"The idea of a man your age beating a poor old woman like that." Prisoner—"But, your worship, she kept irritating me all the time. Magistrate—"How does she irritate you?" Prisoner—"Why, she keeps saying, 'Hit me! Beat me! Just hit me once, and I'll have you hauled up before that bald-headed old reprobate of a magistrate and see what he'll do with you.'" Magistrate—"Discharged."

A Scotsman sold a racehorse to a friend for a hundred pounds. It died from overheat, but the Scot put it into a horsebox and sent it off, and to his surprise got his money. When next they met, the Scot cautiously expressed his surprise. "Ah, well, you see, it was thith way," replied the Jew. "I rattled it; ten tickets at £10." "But what did the man say who won it?" "Oh, I just told him the horse did die and gave him his money back. You see, I'd got the money of the other nine."

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BY

BERNARD POWTHORNE.

Author of "The Jewels of Sin," "The Sinner of the Yamou," etc., etc.

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CHAPTER VIII.

About the time when Margaret Mulford had run to meet her father and saved from the sea, he came across the sodden cotton field in Argyleshire, a British surgeon stood beside a cot in the military hospital at Nairobi, in East Africa. He was looking down on the emaciated form of a young man who, for the moment, was wrapped in profound slumber, as after watching his patient for a moment, he turned to a bronzed young lieutenant of a native corps.

"He's had the blackwater fever, and it's something of a miracle that he is still alive; but I think we shall pull him through now."

"I'm glad of that," said the lieutenant simply. "It was the end of a job getting him here. You know who he is?"

"No," answered the surgeon quickly. "Do you?"

"Yes. He's Noel Mayhew, of the Natoobi Rifles."

"The man who was in command of the party that was annihilated down Kenia way?" asked the surgeon, with mounting interest.

"Yes. How he escaped he doesn't know; indeed he appears to have no recollection of anything that's happened during the last three years. There's the scar of an old wound on the back of his head that may account for that. I got what account of him I could from the chief of the village where we found him, but—"

"Where was that?" interrupted the surgeon."

"Walgenu, down Onyango way, a frightful sort of hole, crawling with fever. We'd been marching through a sodden forest for days, a place that might have been the very wood of death itself. It was so deadly silent that it got on my nerves, and even my blacks never spoke in a tone above a whisper. One or two men were down with fever, and I was dosing myself with quinine until my head spun, for I was pretty certain that if I went down badly the whole expedition would go to pieces. We were all in a state of jagged nerves and worried to death with tiny leeches that got on the men's legs, when suddenly through the trees ahead of us there sounded the roll of a tom-tom. We brought up and all standing, so utterly unexpected was it.

"If it hadn't been that the men had heard it too, I should have said that I was suffering from some sort of hallucination, for in the death-like quiet of that stifling forest one heard all sorts of sounds in one's head, sounds and that no external reality, you understand."

"I know," said the surgeon.

"Then the tom-tom was real enough, and as we had not stumbled on a village for days we began to shape a course in the direction from which the sound came. Presently we stumbled on one of those forest tracks, green as grass, made by the feet of generations, followed it, and about four in the afternoon came on one of those beshman villages that you find all over the bogs in that country. It was set in a rough clearing, and had a stockade of pointed stakes, a puerile sort of thing, that a score of English schoolboys could have rushed out of hand. As things turned out there wasn't any need for that sort of thing; for as we marched towards the stockade, a man, naked but for a wisp of grass round his middle, saw us and ran inside. I'm sure that the place was just a shrieking bedlam, and before we reached the gate out of it came a withered old black, and dropping on all fours, literally crawled to my feet. Abject wasn't the word, and it was easy to guess that the Mzua had been there before.

"They were pretty ruthless in their government," broke in the surgeon.

"They were, rather," said the lieutenant with some heat. "I've seen things that they did—women's backs half flayed with whips of rhinoceros hide, children who—"

"I know," interrupted the other. "Tell me about my patient, Corfield."

"Right-o!" answered Corfield with an apologetic laugh. "I was forgetting that you were out here all through the campaign. Well, the long and short of the business was that we went under, and, taking the wounded on my side, and talking fifteen to the dozen, we had reached the wrong sort of nuts. He talked a dialect that I wasn't familiar with, and although I gripped a couple of words that were like words used down in the Masoola district, and that could mean nothing else than 'white man.' I listened more carefully after that, and then, seeing the old boy was trying hard to tell me something, I called the boy and made them listen to what he was saying, in the hope that one of them would get the hang of it.

"I had luck. One of the boys tumbled to the patois instantly, and after a minute he shouted out—

"'Bwana, he say there be a sick white man in his village, for when he has cared like a mother—a white man with trouble in his head, who has been here many moons.'"

"'A white man,' I gasped unbelievingly, "in this hole?"

"I looked round the abject place, it was incredible to me that any white man could elect to stay there, and I was guessing that it must be some crazy German missionary, when the old heathen at my side gave a shout, and pointed with all his force. Sahib, I looked in the direction he indicated. Out of one of the huts had reeled a skeleton-like figure, with nothing on but a waist-cloth and a battered pith helmet. He came towards me, stumbling, shambling, a sort of frightful scare-crow to look at, and as he came nearer I saw that though he was baked brown by the sun, he was a white man, and the most minute I knew he was an Englishman, for, as he caught sight of my uniform, a light of intelligence came in his vacuous eyes, and he shouted like a man delivered from hell.

"'Thank God!'

"And five minutes later the knowledge that Noel Mayhew still lived was granted to her, as she reached home and hurried to show her beautiful cameo to her, a certain intensity of her manner, and surprising and a piercing paper in her hand.

"'It's it, Miss Margaret," she said, pointing to a short column with staring headlines. "and there's Mrs. Mayhew's picture on the next page—a very good likeness."

"Thank you, Emily," interrupted her mistress, taking the paper. "You may go. I will ring for you if I need you."

"Yes, Miss Margaret."

The maid withdrew reluctantly and when the door had closed behind her, Margaret looked at the paper. The staring headlines were like a blow to her sensitive spirit. In the first glance she saw that the maid had quoted them correctly, then swiftly she read over the paragraph that followed.

(To be continued.)

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THE COBBERS' CLUB

CONDUCTED BY UNCLE PHIL.

My Dear Cobbers,—I am pleased to tell you that the monkey has arrived safely in a little girl, Hilda Foote, Jacko is delighted that his prize is won, but would like to have had a boy win it. But, I suppose, as there are two girls and one boy in the club than girls, he appeared satisfied. Two more boys in the club than girls, he appeared satisfied. I haven't had any suggestions as to how you are going to spend the pair of carnaties. Isn't he vain; he wants another boy pet as well as a girl. But he is worth getting all they can for him. I should be a white grub (a silkworm I suppose he meant), but when I explained that a grub didn't live long, but went to sleep in a silk case, and after a few weeks became a moth, and perhaps laid eggs, he wouldn't always know what the pet was. He thought of a rat or a mouse, perhaps white mice, or a rabbit, and heaps of other animals and birds till he got him in an awful whirl. So please help me, Cobbers, as now I dream about all Jacko's suggestions. I'm afraid to take him to the Zoo for fear he'd think a lion or a rhinoceros would be just the thing. And whatever thought of such a thing for a pet!

How are the new competitions going? Are you trying to get a boy or girl to them. Remember, you only have a week more for one of them.

The subject of the Xmas Day Competition is Edna Lynch. Edna's essay is printed this week, and the others I have received will be printed in the following weeks. Any essays left at the "Leader" office she will be able to secure her prize.

Love from
JACKO AND UNCLE PHIL.

OUR MAIL BAG.

Dear Jacko,—I am very sorry I did not write last week, as I had no time. I went to the beach on Anzac Day, and had a good time. Has anyone overstayed 28 days? I went to Edithvale beach for the week-end and had a very good time.

Stanley Hauser.

I am very pleased to receive your letter, Stan. I am glad you enjoyed it often write to me, but I love getting letters from Cobbers. I suppose, since Uncle Phil wouldn't let me go in swimming or sail a boat or anything, I'm to use again almost a week.

Love from
South Preston.

Dear Uncle Phil,—I have won my third hundred mark, and another is getting down with this letter. You can get me any book you like. I have nearly finished mine. I do not think I will write about the Christmas Day competition. Love to cousin Jacko.

(GOOD.) Phyllis Murray.

Dear Phyllis: I am pleased to get a book this week, and you can call in for it any Saturday. I'm sorry you didn't enter for the competition, but there are plenty more to enter for the Xmas Day prizes for winner the third hundred marks.

Love from
Uncle Phil.

(BETTER.) Betty Ryan.

I had a lovely time with the new dad, Betty. It is real fun camping out, and did you catch any of the fish? If I have room I'll use your story.

31 Fenders St., Thornbury.

Dear Uncle Phil,—I received your letter this morning and the certificate. I am glad I am a member of the Cobbers' Club. I am enclosing some jokes for the Corner. I send you a joke Jacko and am sorry the salah is dead.

(GOOD.) Ivy Hauser.

I am glad to hear from you again, Ivy. Please don't write on both sides of the paper, as I have to rewrite your out again and I really haven't time to do it. Hope you'll enter for the competitions. Love from Uncle Phil.

59 Flinders St., Northcote.

Dear Uncle Phil,—I have now won my second hundred marks, so I am enclosing all my cuttings. We are having a lot of fires aren't we? For a pet for the girls why not have a new monkey to keep Jacko company?

(GOOD.) Aubrey Singleton.

I don't think I could have two monkeys. Jacko is bad enough some times, but I would dread a dreadful life if I had two of them to tease and annoy me. You do not say whether you will have 2/6 or a book. Write or call in about it. Cobbrats for winning the second hundred.

Love from
St. David St., Northcote.

Dear Uncle Phil,—I have not written to you for a long time. I had a lovely holiday at Christmas time and got two Dunsprece out of the plum pudding. How are Jacko and the gang? I am back at school now, and don't mind it a bit. Love from

Peter McPherson.

I thought you had forgotten all about me, Peter. It is lovely to get a letter from you again. Send in some contributions the next time you write. Love from Jacko.

Doreen Frood.—Aren't you going to write to me, Doreen? I would love to hear about your pets or turn or anything. Anyone can help you write. I'm so pleased to welcome another girl and boy member. Write to the monkey too.

Hilda Foote.—If you call for the prize and present your certificate, Hilda, they will give it to you. We had no time for a club and write and tell me how you like the monk.

WHAT HAPPENED ON XMAS DAY.

(Prize Winning Essay by Edna Lynch, Age 12.)

I woke up on Xmas morning to find my youngest sister shaking my shoulder and ask if Santa Claus were telling me to get up. When I was properly awake I pulled my stocking off the end of my bed to inspect the toys Santa Claus had left me.

To my pleasure I found Santa Claus had left me exactly the things I wanted, and my parents were the height of delight of delight with their numerous presents.

The next hour was a very noisy one, but not very musical because all you could hear was the discordant noise of bugles, trumpets, whistles, drums of delight and clattering, with the occasional noise of crunching nuts or sweets.

After breakfast we all went into the street to compare our presents with other children, and to try out scooters and trollys on a more substantial ground than polished floors.

I did also another bad not been able, and it seemed no time before we were called away from our games to deal with our Christmas dinner, which consisted of roast goose, baked potatoes and green vegetables, with plum pudding and sauce to follow. I was unlucky in the latter, as I got only a say money, but I have hopes for New Year's Eve.

When dinner was finished I had that funny feeling which is called "too much plum pudding feeling." I did not go out anywhere, but we had a good time playing games in the yard and I do not think I wanted to go anywhere.

When teatime came I did not feel much like eating anything, so I went and watched the sun setting. It seemed to tell me it had enjoyed this day just as much as I had and would look out for me again. Then I retired for a while and then, seeming to bid me a personal farewell, from view, leaving the horizon bathed in a golden tinted hue.

(BETTER.) Jack Firth.

HOW I SPENT CHRISTMAS DAY.

(Hon. Mention.)

For Christmas this year I was up in Benalla, as I had promised a warm Christmas Day. Other Christmases I have wakened at about four o'clock in the morning to see what Santa Claus has brought me, but I am too old for that now, so I slept on. When I did get up I gave presents and then went to breakfast. After breakfast we all went to church, and then came the important part of the day—Christmas dinner. This was my second Christmas dinner, as I had one before leaving home. We had fowl, vegetables and plum pudding with sauce. There were about eight threepences in the pudding, but I only got three, and my brother got three. The other two were shared by my cousin and auntie. After dinner I read the book I had got, and then went for a swim.

After tea we waited until it was cool, and then went out for a ride in my cousin's car. When we came back I stayed up for a time and then went to bed. I am not able to write myself. My uncle Pat is holding my hand. I only started school in the last fortnight, and I like it very well. I am sending you my sister's form, as I would like her to be a member of the club, as she is a sport. I will send you a letter later on. Wishing you all goodbye. Your new member,

(GOOD.) Sidney Froud.

P.S.—I am proud of my certificate. I have it in a nice frame.

It is very good of your uncle to help you. I have several nephews and nieces, but they live in the country. I would love to have a photo of you, Sidney, as you think of the things you read it doesn't matter who sends them, only I want you to write as soon as you can.

16 James St., Northcote.

Dear Uncle Phil,—I have now won my second hundred marks, so I am enclosing all my cuttings. We are having a lot of fires aren't we? For a pet for the girls why not have a new monkey to keep Jacko company?

(GOOD.) Aubrey Singleton.

I don't think I could have two monkeys. Jacko is bad enough some times, but I would dread a dreadful life if I had two of them to tease and annoy me. You do not say whether you will have 2/6 or a book. Write or call in about it. Cobbrats for winning the second hundred.

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Peter McPherson.

I thought you had forgotten all about me, Peter. It is lovely to get a letter from you again. Send in some contributions the next time you write. Love from Jacko.

Of the heathered hill by the windy bay,
With the swallow following into the grey.

For what fair inland remote and sweet
Has Summer sailed through the twilight bar.

With her crown of light and anointed feet;
Mother of what new flowers afar,
In the meadow land of what virgin sins?

(GOOD.) Violet Whipp.

A REALISTIC DISPLAY.

At the Exhibition Oval one night I saw a most realistic display given by part of the Air Force. All the lights were switched off, leaving the area in darkness except for a search light on the roof. A plane was wheeled out into the oval, together with the ground section of the detachment, which consisted of a workshop, wireless section and tractors. In the beams of the searchlight a wireless aerial was erected and the workshop was set going. The plane was tested for a flight, and then the pilot climbed in. He commenced how the machine gun was fired, and then taxied off the ground, followed by the rest of the division.

(BETTER.) Aubrey Singleton.

HOW TO MAKE A CORK MAN.

Cut off the head of a cork, and then one out of a pickle bottle, and one out of a small medicine bottle. Cut the head of the cork and make a quarter of an inch thick. Mark eyes, nose and mouth on the flat side of the smaller one of three two. On the other piece mark a row of buttons down the middle and also down the arms. To make trousers, cut two long pieces and another one for a belt. Stick on the rest of the sauce bottle cork. Put the pieces together either by glueing or by pushing a pin through the belt cork into the coat one. From the back of the coat one push two pins into the trousers, and from the bottom of the pickle bottle cork into the two legs. For arms use matchsticks with cut cork. You can make a hat, to finish off, from a piece of paper. If you match sticks will do to join him together, and for legs as well as arms.

Uncle Phil.

STORYETTES.

An Englishman and Scotsman were out walking one day when the conversation was suddenly changed to a discussion on the size of Scotland. The Englishman said that England was much bigger than Scotland. The Scotsman retorted gruffly, "Aw, get away; if Scotland was rolled out flat it would cover England!"

(GOOD.) Florrie Cameron.

"Last night I awoke with an impression that my watch was gone," said Jack, "so I got up and looked." "And had it gone?" asked Tom. "No, but it was going."

New Boarder.—"What kind of table do they set here?" Old Boarder—"We have chicken every morning—but in the shell."

(GOOD.) Cyril Webb.

New Boarder.—"What kind of table do they set here?" Old Boarder—"We have chicken every morning—but in the shell."

(GOOD.) Cyril Webb.

Mother.—Well, Elsie, what did you learn today?" Elsie (aged 6)—"To spell." Mother—"What did you learn to spell?" Elsie (promptly)—"Ma-m-m-m." Mother—"How do you spell boy?" Elsie (after a moment's reflection)—"The same way, only in littler letters."

(GOOD.) Alma Lewis.

Policeman—Little boy, do you know where little boys go who play football on Sunday?" Little Lad—"Yes, of course I do, but do you think a man's nose enough to tell you?"

Mother—"Where's Arthur." Little Girl—"I don't know." Mother—"Well, run down and see what he's doing and tell him to stop at once."

Stan Hauser.

Tommy had been very sick and his mother gave him a pill on a piece of apple. "Did you eat the piece of apple I gave you?" asked the mother later on. "Yes, all except the piece of pill," Tommy.

(GOOD.) Davies Firth.

MOTHER'S BIRTHDAY GIFT.

Tommy and Jean thought they would give their mother a gift for her birthday. Jean asked the nurse what to get her mother, so nurse said that she liked roses. They got up very next morning, had to dress the prize there was not a rose to be seen. After thinking for some time Jean went to the workrobe and got a red of nurse's best hat. They tied it on to a stem of the rose bush and left it there. When mother got up she saw it and picked it, but when she found that it was only a rose of nurse's hat, she scolded Jean and Tommy. Later they found her another rose, and she told them that they were very sorry for scolding them.

(GOOD.) Try Hauser.

THE ADVENTURES OF GOOD GWENNY AND NAUGHTY NANCY

Now the driver's name was Mr. Oswald, and his son's name was Jim. They lived on a farm and were quite used to waiting, so when they came home they began to walk. Nancy said she wasn't tired, so she got out with them. When they had gone about a mile Nan found her feet were so sore she could hardly walk any more. She sat down on a tree stump and then when she got up again she could hardly move her legs for the pain. There was only one thing for it, so Mr. Oswald put her on his back and paddybacked her. They walked on and on, and Mr. Oswald told them fairy stories on the way. One he told was about a little puppy cat who didn't want to be a puppy cat, but wished to be a Felix cat. Then he told them about a fish who eats always had a good time, and pussies ate grass and thought they never had nothing to do. "No," said Mr. Oswald, "cats don't have a good time, for they have to look after you do. And it is harder and takes more brains to catch mice and be clever as you." "Tell us the story, Gwen," said Jim, and then he began.

Once upon a time there lived a father, mother, brothers and sisters in Cat-land. They were quite happy and contrious until one day a circus came to Catland. Now a circus is a wonderful thing, you go in, and there is camels to Catland only once in five years, it is called Catland because it is, but of course everyone went to see it, and there was the usual clown and white mice about. A white mouse, called Hand, and many white ones dancing. It was a very big circus, and most wonderful was the star attraction, The Felix Cat. When Felix walked on the high rope everybody held their breath, all the 'Ady pussies loved him and made love to him, while all the tom cats were jealous of him."

(To be continued.)

COMPETITIONS.

OUR NEW PET.

For the winning suggestion from any member of the club for what shall be the prize of 2/6 or a book will be given. Back up, girls, and say what animal or bird you would like for a pet, and it will get one if I can.

TONGUE TWISTERS.

Send in a sentence with as many words as possible beginning with S, as possible in it. A prize of 2/6 will be given for the best sentence. Competitors must reach me by March 4, 1927.

Example.—Artful Archie Allan marvel and around amiable Annie Alford with airy anachronisms.

The result will be announced on March 11, and marks will be given for other good attempts.

LIMERICK—FIND THE LAST LINE.

There was is a limerick Competition. Find the last line and you will earn a prize of 2/6. Marks will be given for other good lines. The successful petition will be open for two weeks, and winner will be announced on March 25.

There was a young man of Calcutta
Who was a terrible fellow to stutter.
He went into a shop
To buy lollipop,

How to Join the Cobbers' Club

Fill in form at the bottom of the page and address to

UNCLE PHIL,
"The Leader,"
High St., Northcote.

In due course you will receive a beautiful certificate to say that you are a member of the club. Join now, and tell your friends to join too.

COMPETITION CORNER.

Stories, riddles, catches, jokes, puzzles, short verses, or anything else you think will be interesting to the Cobbers' Club are to be sent to Uncle Phil, The Leader," High street, Northcote.

They will be printed or marked—Good, Better, or Best. Good, 8 marks; Better, 10 marks; Best, 15 marks. Cut out all your own and keep them until you have 100 marks. Then send to Uncle Phil, and say if you prefer a cash prize of 2/6 or a book. If a book, say the title.

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Name and Age
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ALLEGED THEFTS OF MILK.

ANOTHER MAN CHARGED WITH RECEIVING.

BOTH CHARGES DISMISSED.

At Northcote court on Tuesday Arthur Charles Denman, 29, driver, Wellington street, Richmond, was charged with having received a number of milk tokens at 2/2, the property of James C. Stuckberry, on February 6. There were two further charges of a similar nature in respect to February 10 and 11.

William Henry Vincent, 36, Melbourne and Thomson streets, South Northcote, was charged on three counts with having received the milk, knowing it to have been stolen.

Both accused pleaded not guilty.

James C. Stuckberry, dairyman, Westgarth street, South Northcote, said that on February 6 Denman was in his employ. He had been instructed not to sell any milk to any other dairyman. On February 6 witness sent both accused in Arthur street, and Vincent got a hand can of milk from Denman. On February 10 witness made out a number of milk tokens, and Denman said "We will make Prahran pay days, so we won't get mixed up." Vincent said "All right." Next morning witness was accompanied by two constables to Denman's yard. Vincent filled his can from Denman's cart, and witness then made his presence known.

Cross-examined—He had been in the milk trade for 15 years. It was a usual practice in the trade for drivers to exchange tokens, but it was not witness' practice.

Const. N. S. McDonald said he was with Stuckberry on February 11. At the back of Denman's cart was a brand can, which Vincent said was his. Denman said that Vincent asked him for some milk and Denman said he was buying it. Denman said he had never seen Vincent before, and Vincent said he had bought milk once before. Denman said he had sold milk five times to Vincent. Vincent said the money to his employer. Asked why he only bought milk for about a week, Vincent said "Did you know the milk was stolen?" and Vincent said "I knew it was not above board."

Both accused elected to be dealt with. Denman's counsel submitted that there was not a tittle of evidence on which to found a case. Denman had been guilty of an indiscretion.

Both men were discharged.

Stains on windows or mirrors are difficult to remove should be rubbed with a cork that has been dipped in petrol.

Shabby brown shoes may be improved if the tips and signs of wear by painting with iodine.

Scum will not discolor caulis were to be boiled with the stalk in uppermost.

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BOWLING

THE PRESTON CLUB.

A PENNANT.

The A's played Jubilee Heights, the leaders of the section, on Saturday and after a hard go finished 6 shots to the good. This is a very fine performance, and, by the way, is the first defeat on our own green for the year. It should be the A's doing so well and this is the first defeat Saturday would have made things very awkward for the 1st-greens, hence the keen interest on Saturday's game. For the most part of the match it was little or no difference in the aggregate scores; it was not until the 22nd end that the visitors got on top. At this stage they were up 12; this was mainly due to the excellent bowling by the two members of Whittington's rink, who left Sharp's rink standing after the 15th end, when the latter had 10 to the final scores being Whittington 30, Sharp 18. Lang's rink, by the way, got all the afternoon with Wood, four or five points separating them all through the game. Wood returned home by four points at the 25th head—Wood 30, Lang 26. His rubber was well contested between Forth and Potter the remarkable for the latter, who commenced her cricket match against the Preston Footballers, and same will be continued on Saturday. At the last end Forth's rink was one down, but Potter did not know how many happened to be against her. At the finish she was quite he invariably managed to either get the shade or level matters, and on three different occasions the home rink was lying five, only to find Potter drawing the last bowl, and so it was at the last bowl. Even at the last end, when all the other rinks had finished, and Forth's rink had one end to go, Thornbury were four and Forth still 2—; two bowls to play. It was practically impossible to draw the shot, but Potter did the trick and got the last next second shot. If he had not done so it is possible that the scores would have been a tie and extra ends necessitating another end, but Potter saved the situation, and Lang-Cambell won a good game by five points. Tuesday, 21. The fourth rink skippered by Fletcher were away from home rink that kept Thornbury on the map. Thornbury were Gaylard's quartette a look in, leading from start to finish. The Jones-Fletcher combination having a day out, completely outplayed the opposition. The final scores in the two other games were 35, Gaylard 19. The aggregate scores were East Camberwell 91, Thornbury 36.

The No. 1 C team still go on their way rejoicing. Their performance in this section now evens if they lost the next two games, which is not very much likely, and they have every prospect of completing the home and home matches without losing a point—a very fine performance. They should be in the finals, according to the basis.

On Saturday they journeyed to Surrey Hills, where they easily accounted for the local team by 44 shots in all three rinks. Allen again had his measure, beating Mann by 17 points—29 to 12; Warren beat Constable 25 to 21; and Weate beat Blogg 27 to 24. Next Saturday Thornbury 32, Surrey Hills 59.

The No. 2 C team had a week-end trip out to Mentone, where they did just as badly as the No. C team did well. Whitechurch's rink was the only one able to keep their noses in front; he won against Fullerton by four points—24 to 20. Williams was out to the tune of eight against Scaife and Mahoney—well, up to date we have not been able to ascertain what happened to them. This we do know, that this was the only rink that went by car; the others had to go by train, and consequently had no opportunity of making occasional hahis. This may not have been the cause of the downfall, but until further evidence is forthcoming—well, nut said. At all events they are not happy on returning to Thornbury somewhere about 7.30 p.m. The scores in the game between Mahoney and Constathorpe were 42 to 7, and the total scores were—Mentone 85, Thornbury 48. The No. 2 team are still prepared to put their socks on the No. 1 team for the premiership.

The second last round will be played to-morrow. Thornbury's fixtures are as follows:—The A team play Port Melbourne at Port Melbourne; the No. 1 C team and the No. 2 C teams are both at home to Sunshine and Middle Park No. 2 respectively.

HIGH RINK TOURNAMENT.

Results of matches played on Thursday, January 19:—F. Walker (Ivanhoe Presbyterians) 78 beat Kingsbury (Preston Church of England) 14, Murphy (Thornbury Methodists) 20 beat Rogers-Pope (Alphington C. of E.) 19. Howe (Preston C. of E.) 27 beat Miller (Fairfield C. of E.) 15. Pope (Alphington C. of E.) 19 beat Fairbairn (Preston Presbyterians) 12 beat Muir (Thornbury Presbyterians) 11. Peacham (Thornbury C. of E.) 29 beat Smith (Preston Presbyterians) 11. Whalley (Northcote Presbyterians) 18 beat Morris (Fairfield C. of E.) 14. Results of Tuesday, February 21:—Price (Thornbury C. of E.) 18 v. Robertson (Northcote Presbyterians) 22. Williamson (Fairfield C. of E.) v. Gay (Ivanhoe Methodists) 23. S. Walker (Ivanhoe Presbyterians) 21 v. Murden (Thornbury Methodists) 19.

BOY SCOUTS.

THE PRESTON TROOP.

Last Saturday we finished our match against the footballers and were defeated. This Saturday we would not go to the Preston Oval. The younger boys will have a match with the boys from the North Preston Baptist Church on our ground. Last Saturday night the seconds took part in a parade while the leaders had a long meeting, dealing with the annual meeting to be held early next year. The various promotions and appointments will be made known at the annual meeting to be held this next Saturday evening. An invitation has been sent to the Mayor and councillors to attend. The cubs will attend the annual meeting as well as the scouts. The gymnasium is making good headway at the Thursday evening classes. Next Saturday the senior scouts will attend a Rally. Richmond have been assisting in the work of instruction. The parents' fortnightly meeting was held last Wednesday at the scout hall. The next meeting will be held this Sunday at 3 o'clock, when the new leaders will be present for the first time. The library has been reopened, and books may be obtained. It will be necessary for those who use the library' cards, the cost of which will be 1/ each, to be paid for before being issued. All bugles are to be handed in to the scouts' room after the next Saturday parade. Any scouts of the troop who are entitled to attend the annual meeting, which will be held early in March, should tell their friends willing to assist the parents in the annual sports ground, and others are invited to attend the meeting, or any articles or donations sent along to the hall will be gladly ack nowledged. The total amount we need to raise is £30. We have a long way to go and plenty of work to accomplish, but with the assistance of our friends we feel confident of soon being in our new building which is so urgently required.

THE PRESTON TROOP.

Last Saturday evening we arranged also a number of games and some interesting contests took place. Patrol competitions, which has just returned from the Tasmanian corroboree, related his experiences, and the boys generally were pleased to have him back occupied over half an hour. Last Saturday the scouts commenced their cricket match against the Preston Footballers, and same will be continued on Saturday. At the boys' parents' banner committee satisfactory reports were made by the various stall holders, and we are looking forward to a very substantial result. The annual social and euchre party is to be held in the Town Hall on the 26th inst. We have also commenced our

STOTT SON & WATSON

NORTHCOTE'S OLDEST ESTABLISHED AUCTIONEERS, ESTATE AND INSURANCE AGENTS.

Largest List of Properties in District of Northcote, Preston, Fairfield.

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Head Office—203 HIGH STREET (Cor. Westbourne Grove).

Branches—HIGH ST., THORNBURY, Cnr. Dundas Street.
HIGH ST., PRESTON, opposite Post Office.
RAILWAY PLACE, FAIRFIELD, opposite Station.
Phone—Northcote 554-555.

Church Notices.

Alterations for this column must be to hand by Wednesday night.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, Northcote.

Preacher morning and evening, Rev. George Clark, M.A., principal of Robert Money school, Bendigo.

HOLY TRINITY, THORNBURY (Corner Parade.)

HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES.
HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICES, Holy Communion.
11 a.m., Matins and Sermon. Vicar.
7 p.m., Evensong and Sermon. Canon Wade.

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY, Separate Northcote.
Mont Hall, Merri and Bay View Sts. North.
11 a.m., Holy Communion.
7 p.m., Evensong.
Preacher—The Vicar.

THORNBURY PRESBYTERIAN Rossmoyne St., near High St.

11 a.m., "The Song of Moses and the Lamb".
7 p.m., "The Largess of Life." Rev. W. J. Harris, Preacher.
Solos and Anthems rendered. Harvest Thanksgiving February 27.

NORTHCOTE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (James Street).

11 a.m. subject—"The Ideal Man."
7 p.m. subject—"Conviction and Conversion."
The brethren of the City of Northcote Kew-side Lodge, No. 215, Smailes, will attend the morning service.
Preacher at both services—Rev. Eulme Bain.
Minister—REV. JOHN H. BATES.

PRESTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DAVID ST.

Services 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
On the pulpit, at 11 o'clock, J. JEFFREY ST., PRESTON.
Come Strangers and Plenty road train terminus.

SUB. W.S. VIAL
State School, Tyler St., Sub. Preston.
11 a.m. and 7 p.m., Jarvis.
Everyone Welcome.

SOUTH PRESTON METHODIST CHURCHES.

SOUTH PRESTON.
HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES.
11 a.m., Rev. W. H. Williams.
7 p.m., Rev F. Dellingho, B.A.
PENGLYN'S GROVE.
11 a.m., Mr. Bentley.
7 p.m., Mr. Bentley.

NORTHCOTE METHODIST CHURCHES.

HIGH STREET.
HARVEST FESTIVAL.
11 a.m., Rev. T. H. Isdale.
7 p.m., Rev. W. H. Holtham.
PRINCE OF WALES' PARK.
11 a.m., Rev. W. H. Holtham.
7 p.m., Rev. T. H. Isdale.
ST. GEORGE'S ROAD.
11 a.m., Rev. W. J. Lancaster.
7 p.m., Rev. T. H. Isdale.
CROXTON.
11 a.m., Pastor W. J. Davey.
7 p.m., Rev. W. E. Lancaster.

CROXTON METHODIST CHURCH, SUNDAY, FEB. 20, at 7 p.m. HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE AND CANTATA.
"A Harvest Song of Praise."
Soloists—Miss Edna Freeman, Miss Eva Wilson, Mr. Harold Allison.

PRESTON METHODIST CHURCHES.

PRESTON.
11 a.m., Rev. J. Mcllroy, B.A.
7 p.m., Mr. Parsons.

THOMASTOWN.
11 a.m., Mr. Bentley.
7 p.m., Rev. J. Mcllroy, B.A.

WEST PRESTON.
11 a.m., Mr. Docking.
7 p.m., Mr. Smith.

RESERVOIR.
11 a.m., Mr. Leighton.
7 p.m., Mr. Dunn.

BAPTIST CHURCH, HIGH ST. NORTHCOTE.

11a.m.—"Discipleship: The Fatherhood of God."
7 p.m.—"Voices from the Cross—Forgive."
All Welcome.
Minister—Rev. Donald McNicol.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, High Street, Northcote.

11 a.m., Worship.
3 p.m., Bible School.
7 p.m., Gospel Service. Mr. J. C. P. Pittman. Subject—"The Good Confession."

A French archaeological expedition which has been making investigations on a submerged Roman city in the Mediterranean Sea, proposes to make use of a special type of submarine moving picture camera by which extraordinary underwater pictures can be obtained, it is claimed, much superior to those which have lately been shown upon the screen.

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The Leader

Published Every Friday Morning.
JUSTICE TO ALL.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1927.

ITEMS OF NEWS.

At Northcote court on Tuesday Alec Walker, who rode a bicycle without a light at 9.30 p.m. on January 13, was fined £1.

All dogs in Northcote must be registered on or before March 12, otherwise those in possession of unregistered dogs after that date will be liable to prosecution.

Mrs. F. J. Slater, District Commissioner for Girl Guides at Northcote, will visit Preston on Wednesday next, February 23, for the purpose of arranging for the formation of a Girl Guide committee in Preston.

At the Thornbury school two tennis courts are available. The school committee are inviting all past pupils to meet at the school on Thursday next (February 24), with the object of forming a tennis club. It is hoped that there will be a good attendance.

At Preston court on Thursday A. T. Davis obtained an order against J. Smith for £3/7/- for goods supplied, with 6/- costs. The Preston Fuel Supply Co., for whom Mr. Norris appeared, secured an order against — Williams, trading as the A.B.C. cake shop, for £1/9/8, and 16/6 costs.

A finding of accidental death was recorded by the Deputy Coroner (Mr. Grant, P.M.) at an inquest held on Tuesday into the death of Hoax Maloney, 65, of Beaver's road, Reservoir. Maloney died from injuries received on February 7, when he accidentally fell when alighting from a moving tram car in Collins st.et.

New Insolvent.—John Henry Hayden, of Raleigh street, Thornbury, farrier. Causes of insolvency—Failing off in business, lame ankle so that work on account of serious accident, sickness of wife and family, and pressure of creditors. Liabilities, £178/3; assets, 5/-. Mr. Rent, assignee.

In connection with the Northcote District High School a picture night will be held in Westgarth Theatre on Wednesday, Feb. 23. A special turn will be given by Snow Parry, the lightning sketcher, whose humorous and highly appreciated wherever he has performed. Remember Wednesday evening's programme is to help the High School carnival committee to raise funds for school comforts.

Dr. Vera Scantlebury, Director of Infant Welfare for Victoria, paid a visit of inspection to the Preston Baby Welfare Centre on Tuesday last. After the inspection, on which she was accompanied by Sister E. M. Holland, Sister-in-charge, Dr. Scantlebury expressed satisfaction at the way in which the work of the centre was being carried on.

At the last meeting of the Preston Council, notice was given by Cr. J. W. Barrow of his intention to move at such a motion adopted by the council, allowing two petrol kerb pumps of Australian manufacture to be erected outside each garage, be rescinded, and another motion carried, that in future within 30 days notice be given to all persons in front of whose premises two petrol pumps have been erected, to have such pumps removed from the footpath or kerb.

Preston Citizens' Band gave a programme of music at the Ball Street Park, Preston, on Sunday afternoon last. Under Bandmaster Sly, Hellings a very fine recital was given. It was a very disappointing to see the mere handful of people that attended and if that is all the encouragement that is given to the band, it will be a long time before another recital is given in Ball Park. A fine band could not be wished for, and yet public support is not always forthcoming. The band funds, as a result of the recital, will only benefit to the extent of about £1.

A painful accident happened to Mr. T. Jolly, an employe of Messrs. Garnsh Motors, High street, Northcote, on Friday afternoon last. Mr. Jolly was using petrol in the course of his work when some spilt over his clothing. Without thinking he struck a match to light a cigarette, and his clothing burst into flames. A fellow-workman wrapped a bag around him, and rolled him on the fire extinguisher. The flames were quickly extinguished before Mr. Jolly was burned, but he received shocks the legs and hands.

Richard Keys, printer, of Fyfe street, Thornbury, was knocked down in Carlisle street, St. Kilda, at 11.15 on Monday night, and robbed of £237/10/-. In a statement he said that he got off a tram in Carlisle street, and was walking along the footpath when a man suddenly sprang at him and hit him in the stomach. Keys fell to the ground and remembered nothing more until early on Tuesday morning. He then discovered that notes to the value of £237/10/- were missing from his pockets. Detective A. Lee is inquiring.

"The pony is worth only 30/-," was the protest of John W. Gibson, of Clarendon street, Northcote, in Coburg court, when sued for £11/9/-, balance due for feeding and taking care of pony on March 9. On November 19, 1924, till January 29, 1925—121 weeks at 2/ a week. J. T. Culhane, Elizabeth street, Coburg, and defendant's agent had been left with him to graze. He had received £5. The pony, in his opinion, was worth £2. — Defendant: "It's almost claimed with 26/- costs was recorded.

The Preston Council sent two car loads of men to the bush fires at Warrandyte on Saturday last. One car load returned at about 11 a.m. on Sunday and the other at about 1 p.m. Both parties had had plenty of hard work, and did their part to get the fire under. In recognition of the services rendered by the councils men, Capt. Arthur A. E. T. Fayne, of "Yarra" Stud Farm, Lilydale, has sent a cheque for £5/5/- to the town clerk of Preston. A letter has also been received by the council from Miss A. Ruth Corry, head teacher of the Christmas Hills State school, expressing thanks to the council for the services of such a band of workmen, whilst that district was swept by bush fires.

NORTHCOTE THEATRE

Friday and Saturday.

Reg. Denny in
"Take It From Me"

Also
"The Gilded Highway"

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday.

Gloria Swanson in
"Fine Manners"

Also
"The Boy Friend"

Thursday, Friday, & Saturday
"Aloma of the South Seas"
(Gilda Grey)
and
"April Fool"

Voting all the week in
MISS NORTHCOTE COMPETITION

First Semi-final commences on Monday, March 7, 2nd on Saturday, March 12

Seventh Heat
MISS NORTHCOTE COMPETITION

Moving Pictures taken on Stage on Saturday Night.

The Semi-final Competitors:—Thelma Walsh, Nellie West, Rita McNamara, Gladys Lane, Mary Sandercock, Edna Cornell, Edna Neal, Ivy Sadler, Caroline Downing, Lily Grover, Nancy Lanagan.

SCOTTISH CONCERT

A FEAST OF ENJOYMENT.

A most enjoyable concert was held in the Northcote Town Hall on Wednesday night by the Northcote and Preston Scottish Society. Very few seats were vacant. There were many visitors present from other societies, among whom were representatives from Moonee, Yarrahan, Collingwood and Carlton. The programme given was one of the best, perhaps the best the society has ever prepared. An enthusiastic audience greeted the society's band as they piped in the chief, Mrs. Telfer. The concert opened with the National Anthem, after which the Society's Pipe Band played a selection. This band now ranks with the best bands of both Victoria and New South Wales. A male quartette (Messrs. Burleigh, Hooke, Schilling and Watford) sang an enthusiastic audience greeted the society's band as they piped in the chief, Mrs. Telfer. The concert opened with the National Anthem, after which the Society's Pipe Band played a selection. This band now ranks with the best bands of both Victoria and New South Wales. A male quartette (Messrs. Burleigh, Hooke, Schilling and Watford) sang an enthusiastic audience greeted the society's band as they piped in the chief, Mrs. Telfer. The concert opened with the National Anthem, after which the Society's Pipe Band played a selection. This band now ranks with the best bands of both Victoria and New South Wales. A male quartette (Messrs. Burleigh, Hooke, Schilling and Watford) sang "Jessie, the Flower o' Dunblane." From the very beginning the audience heartily enjoyed the song and two encores were demanded —"The Farmyard Medley" and "Poor Old Joe." Another of the Northcote Male Party danced to the accompaniment of the pipes, played by Pipe Major Ackerly. Mr. Walter Burleigh has a sonorous bass voice and stirred his audience to the depths when "The Standard on the Braes o' Mar," and as an encore "A Hundred Pipers a Deep." A duet "Watchman What of the Night?" sung by Messrs. Hooke and Schilling was greatly appreciated. Mr. Fred Wastford rendered "My Ain Folk" splendidly, and in response to an encore "I Hear a Thrush at Eve." Mr. Jas. Williamson supplied the humorous side with comic songs and stories.

The Pipe Band opened the second part of the programme with another selection, and the Northcote Reel Party danced the Highland Fling. The next item was the quartette, "We Three," who sang "Loch Lomond," a very good rendering indeed. "Sir Roger de Coverley" and "Sleep Kentucky Babe" were also given. Mr. Pitt o' Wise," as rendered by Mr. Wm. Hodge deservedly brought an encore entitled "Cockney Humour." The old Scottish ballad "Who'll be King but Charlie?" was sung by Mr. Claude Schilling in a very musical manner. On being recalled his encore number was "The Blind Boughman." Again "We Four" delighted with "The Rose of Tralee." The first encore was "The Larze Waterfall," followed by "Tipperary" and "Ole Banjo" and "Ringtail Coon." The audience greatly appreciated this number, and were loath to let them go. The last item brought back Mr. Jas. Williamson to his curious and funny songs, which pleased everyone. The Chief asked members, visitors and friends not to forget the Concert, to be held on March 16. A moonlight trip on the steamer "Hygeia" has been arranged for Monday, February 28. In connection with the Northcote District High School a picture night will be held in Westgarth Theatre on Wednesday, Feb. 23. A special turn will be given by Snow Parry, the lightning sketcher, whose humorous and highly appreciated wherever he has performed. Remember Wednesday evening's programme is to help the High School carnival committee to raise funds for school comforts.

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PRESTON'S WATER COMMISSIONER.

CR. L. L. JONES ELECTED.

CR. C. T. CRISPE DEFEATED AFTER 25 YEARS' SERVICE.

A letter was received by Preston Council at its last meeting on Monday from the Metropolitan Board of Works, advising that the resignation of time Cr. Crispe would retire from the Board at the ort of February, and requesting that a representative be appointed. The retiring candidate was available for re-election.

Cr. Robinson moved that Cr. C. T. Crispe be appointed Preston's representative. During the time he (Cr. Robinson) had been in the council, and long before that, Cr. Crispe had done a great deal for the district, which had always set a fair share of time and work going. He felt that by changing their member they would not be any better.

Cr. Crispe said it was not usual for a candidate to second his own nomination. He understood that a certain councillor was to have been present to do so, but he could not see the motion himself. He was quite seized with the fact that a spell of canvassing had gone on for the position. Certain promises had been made, and it was quite clear that, if they voted in a certain direction certain things would be done. He was sorry that that sort of thing had crept into the council. While a member of the Board he had done his best for the interests of Preston, and he thought that he had not done all he could for the district. He thought the council sent to the Board, that person would never hold the position he now held. He had been a working man all his life in order within the next few weeks. It will be necessary for the board of works to provide for the accommodation within the near future. If they were now with the advance the school has made, it is imperative that the new permanent premises of conducting business be immediately.

Carnival and Picture Night.

The chairman of the carnival committee reported that everything was going on very satisfactorily. On Wednesday evening, February 23, a picture night will be held at the Westgarth Theatre. Tickets at 1/ each. Cr. Crispe and Robinson against.

The Mayor (Cr. Newton) and Cr. J. W. Barrow were absent.

Cr. Crispe attended his last meeting of the Metropolitan Board on Tuesday. In a valedictory speech Cr. Crispe said that, owing to circumstances over which he had no control, he was leaving the Board after 25 years' service. His ability, but he felt it a reasonable proposition on same being carried, that the field that he should be given a chance to contest any positions open. To gain wider experience. The position was difficult. Cr. Crispe had given good service—no one could doubt that. But because someone else should try to widen his views and experience. Cr. Crispe had given good service—no one could doubt that. But because someone else should try to widen his views and experience. Cr. Crispe had given good service—no one could doubt that. He (Cr. Crispe) had had a real "good spin." Cr. Crispe should go round.

Cr. Pratt seconded the motion.

Cr. McPherson said that Cr. Crispe had made certain statements. He (Cr. McPherson) had not canvassed, except by one man in the city, who was one of their "captains of industry," who had sufficient influence with the Board to get the position. He felt it a reasonable proposition on same being carried, that the field that he should be given a chance to contest any positions open. To gain wider experience. The position was difficult

BIG BLAZE IN HIGH STREET

SIX BUSINESS PLACES DESTROYED

MUNRO'S TIMBER YARD AND HOUSES MENACED.

FIRE BRIGADES' WONDERFUL SAVE.

PONY BURNT TO DEATH.

The biggest fire experienced in Northcote for many years broke out on Thursday night last, with the result that five business places in High street were utterly destroyed, and slight damage was done to another business and nearby houses and fencing.

At about 9 p.m. the fire was first noticed, and the alarm was quickly given. It is believed that the outbreak originated in a furniture factory that had only been recently established.

The block in which the fire occurred is situated between Dennis and Dearbin streets, and the building in which the outbreak was first seen is a corrugated iron structure with a wooden lining.

The premises destroyed were—Motor Body Building Company; Oliver's Shoeing Forge; Miles' Engineering Works and Brass Foundry; Shaw and Reynolds' stables, in Harris street; Northcote City Motor Garage, owned by Messrs. Bennett and Mitchell and McDonald's premises in High street.

Shortly after a quarter to 9 o'clock Mr. F. C. Rowbotham, of Shaftesbury Parade, Northcote, saw flames issuing from a small building at the rear of 232 High street, which, some weeks ago was opened as a furniture factory. Mr. Rowbotham at once notified Mr. L. S. Dillon, who lives in a house adjoining Cottle & McDonald's building. The two brigade was summoned and in the meantime the flames leaped from building to building, and within ten minutes the whole block was alight. Two frames from the North-cote Brigade, who were the first to arrive, did magnificent work but, unfortunately, owing to water pressure, their efforts were set at naught by the flames. Several roared through the old buildings and licked up their inflammable contents at terrific speed.

With the arrival of strong fire-fighting reinforcements from the adjoining brigades and from Eastern Hill, the flames were thrown back, and saving Mr. Dillon's house, the three brigades had the fire under control. The timber yard on the north side of the burning premises escaped almost unscathed.

Adjoining the shoeing forge on both the northern and southern sides are residences.

Many Spectators.

Within half an hour of the outbreak of the fire practically the whole building was in flames, the reflection of which could be seen for many miles, and attracted thousands of spectators, who came to the scene of the fire on foot, by motor car, bicycle, and horse-drawn vehicles. Soon all thoroughfares leading to the burning building were badly congested by the onlookers, and the danger in which these people had placed themselves was not realised by many. A slight variation in the wind may have caused the fire, in spite of the precautionary work of the firemen in regard to the timber mills, to have spread in that direction.

Horses Liberated; One Burnt.

As the flames swept towards Hayes street, it was realised by Mr. C. Hammond, of Salisbury street, Northcote, that if the horses in the stables were not released they would be burnt. He rushed in and drove out about a dozen horses, which were terrified and maddened by the proximity of the flames and smoke. It was only then, it is said, however, that it was discovered that a valuable pony had not been released, and that the unfortunate animal was burnt to death.

Furniture Removed from Houses.

So light was the construction of the whole building that it was almost impossible to arrest the progress of the flames, in spite of the efforts of the firemen. Steadily the fire forced its way towards Hayes street, and it seemed certain that houses occupied by Mr. Charles Williams, Mr. Frank Humphrey, and Mrs. Gurr would be destroyed. Residents in the street, realising the danger in which these persons were placed, assisted them to remove their belongings and place them in safety some distance away from the scene of the fire.

Buildings Collapse.

After the fire had been burning for more than an hour portions of the walls collapsed, and showers of sparks were sent into the air—these on to the roofs, caught by the wind, were wafted over the spectators, causing much excitement, and also creating a further possibility of setting fire to other properties. Fortunately, however, the sparks died out as soon as they reached the ground.

With a terrific roar the roof over the livery stables and brass foundry collapsed, dragging with it parts of the walls which had until then remained standing. The flames had spread to two houses adjoining Oliver's shoeing forge, on the northern side of the building, and occupied by Mr. F. Humphrey and Mrs. Gurr. The rear portions of both these premises, from which all the furniture had been removed, caught fire, but before the outbreak was subdued the front premises had subdued the outbreaks.

Scenes of Desolation.

When the flames had died down, and practically the whole of the building at the rear had collapsed, Hayes street presented a remarkable sight. The building was a heap of smouldering ruins, while furniture, some of which was intact and some broken, littered the roadway. Pieces of the front fence away from several of the houses throughout by the fire, and were used as guards to protect the satrayed furniture. Until the arrival of police reinforcements from Russell street the firemen had to control the crowds, as there was no attempt to control the crowds, as there was no attempt to control the crowds, as there was no attempt to control the crowds, as there was stated that several articles had been stolen from the property which had been removed to the roadway.

For some time the firemen were greatly handicapped by wretched water pressure, but with the arrival of the pumps this defect was remedied.

£6,000 DAMAGE.

The damage is estimated to be about £6,000. According to the official fire brigade report 10 buildings were affected by the outbreak. Eight of these were owned by Mr. E. Fellows, of Belgrave, whose policy for £2,500 with the Commercial Union Office covered 13 buildings in the vicinity. It is understood that this insurance does not nearly cover the damage to his properties.

Loss of the heaviest losers by the fire is Mr. W. Dillon, motor engineer, whose premises were situated at 232 High street. His plant, valued at £500, was completely destroyed, and much else besides. Other premises where the contents were uninsured were those occupied by E. Shaw, 20-stalled stable; Mr. C. Williams, four-roomed dwelling; Mrs. S. Guerney, six-roomed dwelling; and W. Oliver, blacksmith's shop. The sawmill and timber yard of Munro and son is largely damaged, were insured in the Insurance Office of Australia for £4,770, and the contents for £5,200.

Public Works Department an application by George S. Jeffory for a motor omnibus service between Geelong and Epping.—Committee of the council.

Registration of Abattoirs.

Town clerk, City of Coburg, regarding arrangements for registration of abattoirs in Bridge road, Coburg, stating that before deciding to re-register the premises, it was desired to know if they were a nuisance to residents of Preston municipality.—Committee of the council; health and medical officers to report.

West West Progress Association.

Secretary Preston West Progress Association, drawing attention to footway in Cramer street between High and Regent streets, and asking that it be covered with ashes or screenings.—Committee of the Whole.—Engineer to report.

Dusty Gilbert Road.

P. J. Boland, Gilbert road, complaining that Gilbert road, which had been graded between Cramer and Regent streets, was now a dust heap and asking that relief be given.

Cr. McPherson said that the street was a private one.

Cr. Jones moved that the street be put on the list for private construction, the engineer to give temporary relief.

Complaint Re Right-of-way.

S. Davey, Cramer street, again drawing attention to water from lane at rear of shops in High street, which found its way to Cramer street.—Engineer to report.

£6,000 DAMAGE.

SEVERAL PREMISES NOT INSURED.

IT IS AN ACKNOWLEDGED FACT

That all the woodwork about your house must be painted—and kept painted—if it would be properly preserved and present the best appearance possible.

Your spare time could not be spent to better or more satisfactory advantage than protecting and decorating your home.

We have everything you require for painting, papering or general decoration. We will estimate the quantities you need and offer expert advice and suggestions, gained from years of experience, gladly and freely.

THE PRICES ARE THE LOWEST.

These few lines here picked at random will give you an idea of the lowness of the prices now ruling at Pridgeon's.

PAINTS, ETC.

FERGUSHON'S WHITE LEAD	67/- cwt
AUS'RALIAN RAW LINSEED OIL	5/- gal.
CALCOLITE	2/- gal.
MIRROR BRAND READY MIXED PAINT	13/- gal.
PREMOLEINE COLD WATER PAINT	1/10 pkt.
MILL WHITE	7lb. tins, 4/9
3in. BRIGHT BRUSHES	3/-

AGENT FOR RICKSLA PAINTS, GOODLASS WALL PAINTS, ETC., BERGER'S PAINTS, TAUBMAN'S STAINS, ETC., MAJORA PAINTS, B77.

WALLPAPERS, ETC.

From 4d Roll.

WALLPAPERS
SANITAS ENAMELLED CLOTH
From 7/3 Yard.

Call and state about your needs. Remember it's an acknowledged fact that good paint preserves, and it is also an acknowledged fact that PRIDGEON'S is the best-value store for Paint and Wallpapers.

PRIDGEON'S

PAINT AND WALLPAPER STORE,

391 High Street, Northcote

Phone N'cote 163

WASHING AND IRONING IS HARD WORK.
LET US DO IT FOR YOU AND AVOID THE DRUDGERY AT HOME

MAC'S STEAM LAUNDRY

656 HIGH STREET, THORNBURY. Phone—Northcote 2204.

Collars, 2d each; Dress Shirts 9d; Band Shirts, 7d. Will pay return tram fare.
Quilts—Single, 9d each; double, 1/- and 1/3 each.
Blankets—Single, 1/3 pair; double, 1/9 pair.
Table Cloths, 6d each.
And all Personal and Household Linen Laundered Like New.
We call and deliver any part of district. Quick Service Guaranteed.

LOANS LOANS LOANS

Why be a £, or Two Short when you can get a

LOAN OF £3 UPWARDS

At Lowest Rate of Interest on Your Promise To Pay Prom

JAS. ALLAN,

THE LEADING FINANCIER

390 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.

'Phone—Northcote 1488.

C. ROLANDS,
Authorised Dealer
and
Service Station.
CHURCH STREET, WHITTLESEA.

AND

WILLYS KNIGHT CARS

Visit our New Showroom and Inspect Our Range of 58m Indirect Fittings, Beaded, Table Pedestal, and other Fittings.

VACUUM CLEANERS.

We anticipate a greater demand for Cleaners than ever before, and we stock and handle the best of makes.

Demonstrations arranged with pleasure.

CASH OR TERMS. Sweepers on Hire at 5/- day.

RADIO SETS AND ACCESSORIES.

BATTERIES RE-CHARGED.

NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS:

Johnston & McMillan

LICENSED ELECTRICIANS AND RADIO DEALERS.

647 HIGH STREET, CROXTON.
(Cnr. WOOLTON AVENUE.)

OVERLAND TOURER STANDARD, £185 DE LUXE, £240. Terms arranged. Cars for Hire.

Agent for—Mitchell and Co. Pty. Ltd., Farm Implements; Diabolo Cream Separators; Leicester Engines, etc.

HAVING NO RENT OR EXPENSIVE CITY PAPER ADVERTISEMENTS TO PASS ON TO YOU ENABLES ME TO GIVE BETTER VALUE.

SEE OUR DIAMOND RINGS FIRST.

Watches, Jewellery and Silver Plate. All Kinds of Repairs.

GEO. DALGLEISH

507 HIGH STREET, CROXTON (NORTHCOTE).
(OPPOSITE MEMORIAL HALL).

DANGEROUS CLAYHOLE.

MOTHERS' CLUB WANT IT MADE SAFE.

Preston Council received a letter at its meeting on Monday from the South Preston S.S. Mothers' Club, asking that steps be taken to have clayhole and edge of the South Preston State school filled in or fenced securely, as it caused worry to mothers and teachers, as to the safety of the children.

Cr. Adams moved that the matter go to the committee of the whole council. If the council went to fill the clayhole up, it would cost about as much as to construct all the streets in Preston.

The motion was carried.

Northcote City Motors

MOTOR ENGINEERS GENERAL ENGINEERS.

(L. S. Dillon, Prop.)

514-518 High Street (Next Memorial Hall).

NEW AND SECOND-HAND CARS.

Authorised Dealers Agents and Service Station

RUGBY CARS AND BEAN TRUCKS.

FINANCE ARRANGED.

Repairs and Overhauls All Makes of Cars.
Special Rates Commercial Vehicles.

ENQUIRES RE OUR SERVICE.

NOTICE.

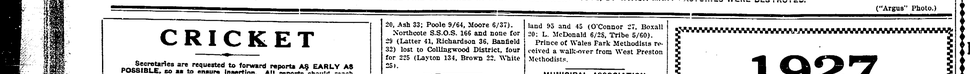
J. W BLITZ SURGEON DENTIST

(Late City). Only Address—264 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
Few doors from Northcote Picture Theatre.

All the most Up-to-date Methods of Dentistry, including Gold Crown and Bridge Work. Repairs done at Shortest Notice.

Phone—Northcote 1612.

BIG FIRE IN HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE.



ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, A LARGE FIRE OCCURRED IN HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE, BY WHICH MANY FACTORIES WERE DESTROYED.

("Argus" Photo.)

CRICKET

Secretaries are requested to forward reports AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE, so as to ensure insertion. All reports should reach the "Leader" Office BEFORE WEDNESDAY.

PENNANT MATCHES.

POSITIONS OF TEAMS.

Club	Pld.	Won	Lost	Drn	Pts
COLLINGWOOD	9	6	1	2	17
SOUTH MELB.	9	6	1	2	17
RICHMOND	9	5	2	2	14
ST. KILDA	9	5	3	1	11
*Northcote	10	4	3	3	11
Haw.-East Melb	9	4	2	3	10
Prahran	10	4	3	3	10
Melbourne	10	3	4	3	9
*Fitzroy	9	2	3	4	8
Hawthorn	10	2	4	4	8
Carlton	9	2	4	3	7
North Melbourne	9	2	5	2	6
University	9	1	7	1	4

*Fitzroy and Northcote a tie, which counts two points each. The result is included in these games.

NORTHCOTE V. FITZROY.

GOOD GAME AT NORTHCOTE.

Northcote on the first day against Fitzroy made 264 runs, the last wicket falling two minutes before time. Fitzroy, in an effort to overtake that score, lost its last wicket two minutes before time on Saturday, when the scores were level. A. Lansdown went in first and was out at 12 minutes to 6 o'clock for a splendid 147, made in 221 minutes, including ten 4's. He drove well, whilst his leg glances and cutting were excellent. He has seldom played a better innings. Out of the first 51 runs he made 46 in 28 minutes, but then played a more restrained innings. After reaching his century he again batted vigorously, and gave three chances, all off H. Fothergill. Dempsey, the left-hander from Coburn, made a good 72 in 160 minutes, with four 4's. Nearly every run came from leg shots. Supporters consider that if these two batsmen had quickened the rate of scoring earlier in the innings the game would have been won. When Lansdown lost his wicket the score was six for 252. Cashman and McDonald failed, Cohen hit a boundary off the first ball and was then run out; Mullens scored 4 and a single; then Comben scored the run that made the scores level, and, in attempting a second, was run out. Morgan, the wicketkeeper, missed several chances of stumping because he moved too far away from the wickets. Mullins, who was brought into the Fitzroy team as a wicket-keeper in place of Woodford (injured), had never appeared on turf before, and made a successful first appearance. Scores.

NORTHCOTE.

First Innings	264

FITZROY.

First Innings.

A. Lansdown, b H. Fothergill	147
H. Lansdown, c Hartkopf, b Charlesworth	6
Scaife, b Gibaud	12
Dummett, st Morgan, b Hartkopf	1
Chapman, b Gibaud	3
Cashman, b H. Fothergill	0
Dempsey, c Hartkopf, b Gibaud	72
Mullens, run out	4
McDonald, lbw, b Gibaud	1
Cohen, not out	6
Comben, run out	1
Sundries	11
Total	264

Bowling—Gibaud, four wickets for 38 runs; Hartkopf, one for 39; Charlesworth, one for 76; H. Fothergill, two for 59; Lowell, none for 22.

A tie.

SECOND ELEVENS.

Fitzroy had a splendid victory at the expense of Northcote, a good ninth wicket partnership being responsible. Northcote made 175 on the first day, and Fitzroy had nine wickets down for 167. McGell 78 and Hurst 57 could not be shifted, however, and at stumps the score was nine for 250. Harding 66, Parkin 24, Comben 14, and Evans 14 were top scorers among the earlier batsmen. Gerbers 4/24 and McSperrin 3/62 were the best bowlers.

Sub-district.

KEW V. PRESTON.

Preston had first use of the wicket at Kew, but made only 133 runs, the consistent Wilkinson being top scorer with 41. Bradford 23, Smith 20, Power 18 and Walker 12 were the other batsmen to reach double figures. Kew's bowling was shared by Gibbon, Hughes and Galley, each of whom took two wickets. Kew put itself in a good position at stumps, when two wickets were down for 65, Thompson being 29 not out and Green 22 not out.

SECOND ELEVEN.

Kew seven for 291 (Speechley 100 n.o., O'Brien 53, Davies 38, Walters 36, Ryan 24 n.o.; Browne 3/69) v. Preston.

North Suburban Association.

FIRST GRADE.

Coburg-Bell Park 259 (Eadie 78, Ivory 39) drew with Coburg-Post, ballers seven for 144 (Graf 45, Hamilton 69).

SECOND GRADE.

South Preston Methodists 225 (Delbridge 49, Hocking 46, Bott 38 n.o., and 8/59; Johnson 5/40) beat St. Stephen's, 59 and 115 (Rickington 61; McLelah 4/65, Rich 5/69).

THIRD GRADE.

Regent 103 and seven (Cook) defeated Strawley 44, Maher 23; Nicholson 6/35) lost to Jenkins, 121 and three for 39 (Carey 101 and 8/35).

Dennis 118 and five for 72 (Gifford 20 and 32, Reilly 23, B. Allen 20 n.o.) drew with North Carlton 118 and nine (closed) for 79 (Scotter 28, Owens 37, A. Eames 20).

Brightside 84 and four for 61 (Mouit 22, Dyer 20; Smith 5/42) beat Croxton 88 and 58 (Dyke 21; Cyrstom 4/22, W. Brady 4/7, Garlick 4/24).

Palmer Street 29 and 39 (Watson 9/18, Brien 6/27) lost to Lynn Shoe 141.

B.U.C.C. 76 and 102 (Clark 41; Lesson 11/61) beat Coburg Juniors 74 and 92 (Trudgeon 24 n.o., Baker 38; Rogers 7/44).

Parkwood 149 and none for 9 (Merrick 24, Cohen 22, Bisley 21; Summers 4/39) beat Alphington 70 and 88 (Rode 26, Ash 22; Poole 9/64, Moore 6/37).

Northcote S.S.O.S. 166 and none for 29 (Latter 41, Richardson 36, Banfield 33) lost to Collingwood District, four for 225 (Layton 134, Brown 22, White 23).

Jika Association.

Prestonite 193 (Temple 61, Fother, still 31, Lee 24, Dolphin 29; Spoor 6/48) beat Glenirra 80 and 70 (Russell 41 n.o.).

Gowerville 256 beat Reservoir 164 (Colquhoun 56, Jutson 45; Bassett 4/40).

Broadhurst's 129 and 60 (Parroselle 5/24), Fitzsimmons 5/32) beat East Ward 65 and 72 (Waller 39; Adams 4/10).

HEIDELBERG DISTRICT.

Fairfield 243 beat Rosanna 140 (Greig 45, Proctor 40; Howgate 2/60 and five for 41 (Curtis 3/41).

Heidelberg 99 (Woolcock 24 b.o.; Hill 5/31) and one for 17 beat Alphington Footballers 56 and 83 (Hutchison 23, Allen 22).

North Ivanhoe 171 beat Alphington 93 (Ford 22, Ford 20) and 109 (W. Johnson 22, Martin 21; Linard 6/35).

Fairfield Junior Footballers 92 beat West Heidelberg 14 and 56 (Hickox 22 n.o., Munro 3/3, McKellon 4/22).

DRUIDS' ASSOCIATION.

CLIFTON V. VOLTOCK.

Resumed on Saturday at Mayer's Park, the above match was won by Clifton on the first innings by 50 runs. Scores—Clifton 172 and six for 191 (Bowden 47, Wood jun. 34, Mendora 32, Durrant 21; Ward jun. 4/36, C. Durrant 3/28). Valtock 125 (Burke 22, Hepburn jun. 29; A. Lee 6/63). Clifton play Dan at Mayer's Park in the next round, which is their last before the semi-finals, and have great hopes of another win.

NORTHCOTE AND PRESTON CHURCHES.

A GRADE.

Northcote Congregationals 162 (Fontaine 80, Whitcuk 42 n.o.) were defeated by Preston Presbyterians 185 (Gorrie 58, Tupps 55, Richardson 21).

St. George's Road Methodists 125 (Mcauley 18, Cammbell 21, Owens 22, Williamson 6/41) defeated Thornbury Church of Christ 59 and 34 (Weir 24; Veevers 7/66, O'Neill 5/16).

West Preston Methodists defeated Thornbury Presbyterians.

B GRADE.

Northcote Presbyterians 112 and six for 83 (F. Capp 25, Spencer 19; Cameron 4/40) defeated Preston Church of Christ 56 and 80.

St. George's Road Methodists 128 and eight for 54 (A. Berry 50, Stacey 24; Sparge 7/64, Trey 6/42) defeated Preston Methodists 55 and 64 (Kilner 25; Phillips 9/47, Newell 6/32).

Croxton Methodists 161 and six for 151 (Turner 60, Stevens 54) defeated Fairfield Methodists 98 (Owens 31, Leake 31; Turner 6/23, Rock 3/23).

Preston Methodist A 184 (Robinson 32, D. Robinson 37; Matthews 4/79, Hatfield 7/31) defeated Northcote Methodists 42 and 132 (Oates 41, Wilkins 20 and 18, Bird 29; Westcott 7/60, Mansell 3/12).

St. Mary's Church of England 180 and 2/21 (L. McDonald 39, Worthington 46; O'Connor 5/62, Newton 3/35) defeated St. James Church of England 93 and 45 (O'Connor 27, Bexall 20; L. McDonald 6/32, Tyler 3/60).

Prince of Wales Park Methodists received a walk-over from West Preston Methodists.

MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION.

Northcote continued with their batting against Melbourne on Saturday. Murray was in good form and piled up 116, while Pearce batted soundly for 51. Northcote's bowler, Carson, was deadly, getting five wickets for 15 runs in the second innings.

Northcote—Ferguson 2, Harrison 26, Murray 116, Davies 12, Pearce 42, Carson 6, total 215. Bowling—Curtis 4/71, Moore 4/56.

Melbourne, first innings 110. Second innings 65. Bowling—Harrison 5/77, Carson 6/35, Murray 7/33, Matthews 1/12.

Northcote play Brunswick on McDonell Park in the semi-final next Saturday.

I.O.R. ASSOCIATION.

Northcote met Hawthorn last Saturday, when they won vastly by an innings and 31 runs. Scores—Northcote 210 (Waterson 92 n.o., Hawthorn 5; King 23; Sharp 3/66, Pearson 3/63). Hawthorn 61 and 65 (Brown 21, Smith 15; Scott 6/16, King 2/4, Williams 5/27, Brown 3/16).

Other Matches.

Northcote I.O.R. 210 beat Hawthorn 61 and 65 (Bunn 21; Williams 5/27, Scott 6/23).

Fairfield I.O.R. (Juniors) 103 and 83 (Gee 40, Nicholson 27, Nichols 21; Todd 6/21) beat West Melbourne 80 and 57 (Newnham 20; Griffiths 6/40).

Holy Trinity (C. of E.), Thornbury, 167 (Watson 52 and 4/44, Dyer 20, Slocie 34 n.o.) beat St. Martin's 52 and 88 (Clements 23, Davey 22 n.o.; Reverley 5/29).

Epiphany Church of England (Northcote) 38 and 52 (Docking 6/27) lost to St. Mary's (Caulfield) 51 and 49 (Trew 5/15, Roger 4/14).

Preston Baptist 104 and 104 and eight for 54 (Taylor 22, Hutchison 21, Day 24 and 13; Clay 8/38) beat St. Kilda 91 and 62 (Clements 45, Lissay 29; Munday 5/9, Taylor 5/22).

Footscray (Paisley St.) 149 (Driscoll 95 n.o.) beat Preston Methodists 74 and 74 (Woods 37 n.o.; Hughes 6/23, Driscoll 4/20).

DANGEROUS CLAYHOLE.

MOTHERS' CLUB WANT IT MADE SAFE.

Preston Council received a letter at its meeting on Monday from the South Preston S.S. Mothers' Club, asking that steps be taken to have clayhole and edge of the South Preston State school filled in or fenced securely, as it caused worry to mothers and teachers, as to the safety of the children.

Cr. Adams moved that the matter go to the committee of the whole council. If the council went to fill the clayhole up, it would cost about as much as to construct all the streets in Preston.

The motion was carried.

A party of picnickers were wandering through the wood in search of bluebells. They came across an empty whisky bottle lying at the foot of a tree. "A Scotsman has been here," said one of the party. "Oh, no," replied another, "a Scotsman would not have left the empty bottle behind."

1927

We all hope for better things with the coming of a New Year.

We wish all our Clients and the public a Happy and Prosperous one.

When planning your Additions or Alterations do not forget when you think of anything electrical that we can quote you.

Installations of every branch of Lighting, Power or Plant.

Best of Materials used and Workmanship Guaranteed.

A GOOD RANGE OF ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES, LAMPS, ETC., ALWAYS IN STOCK.

Visit our New Showroom and Inspect Our Range of 58m Indirect Fittings, Beaded, Table Pedestal, and other Fittings.

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LICENSED ELECTRICIANS AND RADIO DEALERS.

647 HIGH STREET, CROXTON.
(Cnr. WOOLTON AVENUE.)

PRESTON COUNCIL

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14.

The usual meeting of the Preston Council was held on Monday evening. There were present:—Cr. L. Jones, G. Brasservve, A. Hastings, J. Hearn, Pratt, C. T. Crispe, J. W. Adams and O. R. Rodgers.

An apology was received from Cr. J. W. Bartrop.

In the absence of the Mayor (Cr. A. H. Newton), who was in Brisbane, Cr. Jones was appointed chairman.

Royal Visit.

State Director of the Royal visit, re welcome to the Duke and Duchess of York on April 21, convening a meeting of metropolitan mayors and town clerks on February 23 in connection with the proposed arrangements—Cr. Jones to attend if the Mayor is absent.

Telephone Charges.

Frank Brennan, M.H.R., re charges for telephone calls in proposed outer metropolitan radius, enclosing a reply from the P.M.G. Department, stating that the matter was one of policy, and could not be altered at present.—Received.

Cr. Robinson said the reply was most unsatisfactory. The P.M.G. Department ought to popularise the telephone service, and it would really be made to pay.

It was resolved to thank Mr. Brennan, and state that the council was unsatisfactory, and request him to get an alteration as soon as possible.

Bus Route.

Public Works Department an application by George S. Jeffory for a motor omnibus service between Geelong and Epping.—Committee of the council.

Registration of Abattoirs.

Town clerk, City of Coburg, regarding arrangements for registration of abattoirs in Bridge road, Coburg, stating that before deciding to re-register the premises, it was desired to know if they were a nuisance to residents of Preston municipality.—Committee of the council; health and medical officers to report.

West West Progress Association.

Secretary Preston West Progress Association, drawing attention to footway in Cramer street between High and Regent streets, and asking that it be covered with ashes or screenings.—Committee of the Whole.—Engineer to report.

Dusty Gilbert Road.

P. J. Boland, Gilbert road, complaining that Gilbert road, which had been graded between Cramer and Regent streets, was now a dust heap and asking that relief be given.

Cr. McPherson said that the street was a private one.

Cr. Jones moved that the street be put on the list for private construction, the engineer to give temporary relief.

Complaint Re Right-of-way.

S. Davey, Cramer street, again drawing attention to water from lane at rear of shops in High street, which found its way to Cramer street.—Engineer to report.

Complaint Re Rubbish.

Complaint that rubbish was dumped in rights-of-way, and the people concerned to have a civic pride. The motion was carried.

No Later Sunday Trains.

Victorian Railways Commissioner, in reply to council's requests for later trains on Sunday evenings that the Commissioners were unable to run later trains on the Reservoir line on Sundays at any later hour than as now operated, but was asked to receive a deputation. There was no favourable result to the revenue from these trains would be.

The motion was carried.

57th Battalion Regimental Colors.

S. T. Grey, Major 57th Battalion, requesting that Lt.-Col. McKenna and Major Richardson be received at the meeting of the committee of the council to discuss the position re the 57th Battalion regimental colors

Cr. Robinson moved that the deputation be received, but that the council should do something to help the boys to get their colors.

Cr. Adams said the boys had to train, and it was for the council to make the boys be done as easy as possible.

The motion was carried.

Bell Pig Ramp.

Forty-three residents of Gertrude, Adelaide, Barkly and other streets in the immediate vicinity of Bell station, whereat was situated a siding for the unloading of pigs, making a demand for its removal to a site nearer to the abattoirs directly connected. The letter stated: "We are of the opinion that the present situation is highly objectionable to train passengers, and is a menace to the health of the occupants of houses near by—many of whom are young children—by reason of the smell therefrom and the plagues of flies."

Cr. Robinson said people were using other means of travelling to get away from the odors of the pig' ramp.

Cr. Crispe said that Mr. Bell had been asked to bring the matter up on the floor of the House. Pontes after pontes had been made by the Commissioners to remove the nuisance, and it could not be said the council was not doing its duty.

It was decided to place the matter before Mr. Clapp by means of a deputation.

'Flu Scare.

Town clerk, Port Melbourne, asking what steps had been taken for the establishment of an epidemic Emergency Hospital, to meet an expected epidemic of influenza now raging overseas.

Town clerk, South Melbourne, asking what action had been taken re the Public Health Department's circular with regard to the establishment of an epidemic emergency hospital.

Both councils to be informed the council would take no action.

Cr. Crispe said the councils should not be forced into the position of finding the money to build the emergency hospital. This was the duty of the Government. There were plenty of buildings that could be used for emergency hospitals. He felt the council was right in taking no action.

Secretary Melbourne District Nurses Roster Work. Enquire done at Shortest Notice.

Phone—Northcote 1612

PUBLIC NOTICE.

Walter A Warne

UNDERTAKER.

ESTABLISHED 1863

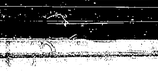
Wishes to notify the public of Preston and District that he has opened a branch at

259 HIGH STREET, PRESTON

(NEXT DALGETY STREET.)

FUNERALS CONDUCTED AT LOWEST POSSIBLE RATES.

ERN. JENSEN, MANAGER.



THOSE INTER-STATE STATIONS ARE WANTING YOU.

Winter nights are coming. Sydney, Brisbane and Adelaide are wanting to entertain you with their delightful concerts—right at your own fireside.

Don't be caught napping with a run down "B" battery.

See Brighton about a new one.

"B" BATTERY ELIMINATOR

ON HIS EASY PAYMENT SYSTEM.

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THE SEASON'S GREETINGS.

Once again, standing on the threshold of another year, we pause to review the past. At such a time we are conscious of a feeling of gratitude to you for the very real support you have given us during the past year. It has indeed been a perpetual source of encouragement to us to know that our best endeavours have earned your appreciation.

You may rest assured that our aim in the future will be to give you even better and better service. To that end we commit ourselves unreservedly.

We thank you very sincerely for your kind patronage, and take pleasure in wishing you a very bright and prosperous New Year.

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LIFE WOULD BE VERY DIFFERENT WITHOUT RUBBER TYRES.

Have you ever thought how much we rely on rubber to furnish us with both necessities and luxuries? The motor car-cycle is the outstanding example of an industry that owes a great deal to this commodity, but there are hundreds of other branches of our everyday existence in which it plays a useful and essential part.

At this time of the year all the tennis courts have to show the most unmistakable signs of wear and tear, but what would they look like were it not for the fact that every player on them wears rubber-soled boots or shoes?

In an inclement climate such as that of Britain, macintoshes and rainproof coats are an absolute necessity, but a necessity that would be denied to millions were the rubber supply suddenly cut off. Chills, influenzas, sore pneumonia would then increase a hundredfold, and the death rate would go up by leaps and bounds.

Floors That Last Longer.

Rubber soles on the boots have proved an inestimable boon to a vast number of people who are forced to do a great amount of walking every day. When these appliances first appeared on the market they were considered rather slightly, but the modern light rubber sole is certainly roomy and one that only gives increased comfort but adds months to the life of a pair of boots or shoes.

Rubber flooring, too, cannot be surpassed for silence, utility, and general tidy appearance, in almost every public building, bank, hospital, town hall, church, and even on all the great liners, rubber floors have been laid with the greatest success.

Their powers of endurance are enormous. Five years ago the floor of the Mitchell Public Library at Glasgow—an area of over 4,000 square feet—was covered with a rubber surface, laid on a concrete foundation. To-day it is practically as good as new. Carpet, linoleum, or tiles would have worn out many times during the same period of years. In addition, the rubber has the advantage of being proof against dust, dirt, and germs.

Protecting the Shingle.

The medical profession could not get along without its enormous supply of rubber, in every surgery and hospital you will find the material being used in scores of capacities, while for the manufacture of surgical appliances it is invaluable.

In every large factory rubber is preferred to any other material for such things as conveyor belts, cutlass bearings, and sealer rings. Nothing else is so reliable and lasting.

The uses of rubber in connection with all branches of road transport are obvious. It is necessary to ensure even the smallest degree of comfort to every passenger, motor-bus, or cyclist. Without it, it would be impossible to travel with any pleasure.

And how would you like to take your morning bath, rise or retire without first protecting your smart shingle from the ravages of the salt water? Where would you be without your dinky rubber bathing cap?

Dame Fashion's Latest.

During the last year or two Dame Fashion has been discovering rubber and dainty little buttonholes composed of skilfully arranged flowers are now all the rage. Without submitting to the test of touch it is impossible to tell them from the genuine garden product. They have silk, wax, and paper blossoms beaten to a frazzle, and they never fade.

There are just a few of the uses to which rubber is being put in the modern scheme of things. Every reader will be able to add hundreds of other uses to those mentioned. A look round an ordinary house will at once convince you that rubber is decidedly one of those things which none of us could possibly do without.

GIFT SUGGESTIONS

WITH the approach of the New Year you would do well to consider for the New Year's end what lady would not appreciate a present from which you may choose. And such may be had for sums that will amaze you—for the prices will suit all.

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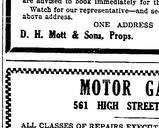

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GIRLS I LIKE.

"Beauty is only skin-deep, but that's deep enough for any reasonable man," says the epigram, and Ivor Novello agrees. But even before beauty the lessons star of stage and screen places the precious gift of understanding.

I don't think I have ever met a girl in whom I could not find something to like. But then, there is no such thing as a woman without attractive qualities.

And yet, there are girls who do not understand this themselves, and allow people to overlook their fine points because they have not the initiative to develop them—but that's a different matter.

But, while I like all women, there are some I may like more than others. What qualities do these possess?

First and foremost, before beauty, charm, or brilliance, I ask that a girl should be understanding. That is a gift I value in womankind more than any other. Indeed, I honestly believe that all the great women in history and legend must have possessed understanding to an unusual degree.

Understanding means sympathy, tact, and just knowing. Show me the woman possessing this quality to a reasonable degree, and I'll show you the Perfect Woman!

Next to understanding, however, I don't exclude beauty. On the contrary, there is no gift more treasured by me. I agree with the famous epigram: "Beauty is only skin-deep, but that's deep enough for any reasonable man."

I love beauty; I demand it in all things. Therefore, the girl who is to interest me must be beautiful.

My difficulty lies in defining beauty. It is no use saying I like girls to be fair or dark, girls to be tall. I like a girl to be beautiful. So long as she is so, whatever her type, I admire her. But there is one stipulation—she must be slim!

The classic is, I suppose, the model to take in judging beauty. A really classic beauty is a divine creature; but, on the other hand, a retroussé nose on the right kind of attractive little face is just as perfect in its way.

All for the Modern Miss.

I don't believe the world has ever known a period of greater loveliness among girls than to-day. The average girl nowadays is full of actual beauty, is astoundingly high. One might almost ask: "Is there such a thing as an ugly woman these days?"

Personally, I'm all for the modern girl. If she has lost a certain bale of romance, once supposed to be indispensable to the fair woman, she has acquired many qualities to make up for it. Then, too, is the romantic halo really lost? A girl can always make herself just as mysterious as she desires.

I don't know what the points of the good, old-fashioned girl were supposed to be. Certainly, when I read Evelyn Laye looking perfectly lovely in her fleeting, moonshine-and-roses role in "Betty in Mayfair," you tell yourself that nothing could compare with her.

And then, when she kicks off the cotton-wool and spends revealed as her delightful, modernised, up-to-date self, the styles of to-day are best.

I like a girl who has a sense of humour, and is a real comedienne. I also admire the woman who is sophisticated—though she must not be more sophisticated than I am. The girl who dresses prettily and always wins my admiration. Whether it is the simple, the bizarre, the artistic, or the outre, she wears her clothes as though they grow upon her. Perhaps I am disappointed in some who would wish me to be more definite about the girls I like.

I'm sorry. As well ask me which season I prefer and expect me to pick out the exact hour. Of course, that I must appreciate. I can only reiterate hopelessly and modestly: I like them all.

So Many Beauties.

There are so many different beauties, so many complete charms in womanhood. Think of the great and famous women of the past, their wonderful allure, their versatility.

For instance, I should have loved to have met the enchanting women who served Praxiteles as model for his Venus. My curiosity would drive me to want to peep at Cleopatra, though I'm not quite sure Mr. Rosenda does not, I confess, like the motive.

Suppose Helen was as inspiring as legend has made her. And Nina de l'Enclos, who was just as fresh and lovely at seventy as she had been at twenty-one. Think of the brains of Lady Mary Wortley-Montagu, the satety of Nell Gwynn, Countess the lovely, unfortunate, Mary Queen of Scots, and then the scarlet-haired splendid Elizabeth.

Men are Standardised.

How is one then to generalise about something so strange, varied, so changeable, and so mysterious as woman? Yes (a girl) can say of a man that you like him to be intelligent, sympathetic, gentle, and to have such-and-such a profile. But there is a certain standardisation about men that allows their defects and qualities to be catalogued.

But who can, without imagination or understanding, confine the amazing individuality and charm of woman within a narrow compass? Not I for one!

I have said what I expect of a girl whom I am to like. But I have no doubt that a girl might appear with many of these qualities, with possibly a thousand defects, and yet compel my interest by some other charm.

In China the annual rainfall is from 30 to 70 inches.

Mrs. Mahonsey—"Or did yer old man break in front seats?" Mrs. Mulfoon—"Tryin' ter drink out of a bottle in a motor bus."

He—"Honestly, do you women like egotistical men as well as the other kind?" She—"What other kind?"

Pat and a professor were out on a lake in a rowing boat. "Pat," said the professor, "do you know any physiology?" "No," replied Pat. "Then there's half your life gone. Do you know any biology?" "No." "There's another quarter of your life gone." Here the rowing boat overturned and threw Pat and the professor into the lake. Pat: "Do you know any swimmingology?" Professor: "No." Then there's all your life gone," replied Pat, as he turned and swam ashore.

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1-ton Trucks and Chassis £150

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Have been awarded Prizes at the Royal Agricultural Show for the past Seven Years, proving their fine quality.

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IN THE FLASHLIGHT

BY

BERNARD RAWTHORNE.

Author of "The Jewels of Ru," "The Shadow at the Vamen," etc., etc.

Published by Special Arrangement.

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CHAPTER IX (Continued).

"Nowra has just arrived from Nairobi, in East Africa, which illustrates the old saying that fact is sometimes stranger than fiction. It will be recalled that during the operations against the Germans, a small party of British levies under Lt.-at. Noel Mayhew, were ambushed in the Masai River region, and utterly annihilated, the belief that were most cruelly done to death. At the time Lieut. Mayhew's body was not found, and though there was some thought that he might have escaped into the thick bush, after a time he was posted missing, and later was presumed to have died. It appears, however, that he escaped the massacre, and quite recently an exploring expedition under Lieut. Cordell discovered him in a native village in an almost inaccessible forest region, at least 200 miles from the scene of the disaster. He was very ill, and had no recollection of the events that had led to his being there among a very degraded people, but his rescuer carried him with all speed to Nairobi to place him in competent medical care; and scarcely had he arrived at the hospital when his young wife, to whom he had married whilst on service, and who for years had lingered at Nairobi in the forlorn hope of her husband's return, appeared to claim him, and so came back from the dead. There are still some sanctuaries into which self-respecting journalists dare not seek to penetrate, and we must leave it to the sympathetic imagination of our readers to conceive the joy of this happy reunion between husband and wife. We join with our readers in congratulations to Lieut. and Mrs. Mayhew, who we understand will be returning to England as soon as the invalid is in a condition to travel. Our portrait on the next page shows Lieut. Mayhew as he was when he left England to take up his commission with the Nairobi Rifles."

With stony eyes Margaret read the long paragraph through twice, then mechanically turned over the page to look at the portrait referred to. It showed a fresh, open face, with eyes that looked smilingly out of the picture, a rather boyish face, not with-out determination and indica-tive of strength of character. Upon her knees, draped in morning purple was a panel photograph, exactly like it, and in front of it was a small vase of flowers—a vase that her own hand had daily renewed since the bitter hour when Noel was reported dead and posted missing. Now as she looked from the paper in her hand to the photograph on the knees, a flood of bitterness surged in her heart, and a sudden storm of weeping overcame her. All that long time she had been faithful to the memory of a lover who had proved himself unworthy, who had been actually unfaithful to the sacred vows they had exchanged. The most sacred thing in her young life had been suddenly destroyed, turned to mockery, and all her maiden love outraged by an unfaithfulness that was almost unbelievable. Bitter sobs shook her, hot tears of utter humiliation scalded her fair face; then suddenly she threw the paper from her and, rising from her chair, crossed to the window and stood in the portrait with the little offering of rare flowers.

For a moment she stood looking straight into the smiling eyes, and then her mind wandered to the unknown woman who had won her lover from her—making him forget love and honor. Who was she? Was she very beautiful—a siren woman, with that fascination which made men forget all old affections and solemn vows? She did not know, she could not guess, but Mayhew's desertion was inexcusable. The knowledge of it stung her deeply. As she stood there, a look of contempt came into her eyes, and suddenly she snatched the white flowers from the vase, crushed their delicate beauty in her hands, and flung them into the wastepaper basket by the table. Then she stripped the purple [illegible] from the portrait, lifted the latter from the small easel on which it reposed, and tore it across again and again, flung the pieces into the basket after the flowers, and stamped upon them.

"Noel Mayhew is not dead, but he was nothing to her, and in his years to come she would never think of him but with scorn

THE COBBERS' CLUB

CONDUCTED BY UNCLE PHIL.

Dear Cobbers,—We wish to welcome five new Cobbers this and hope they'll be real Cobbers and put in plenty of contributions. They are three girls, Ruby Dear, Elva Stabb and Iris Stabb, and two boys, Keith and Arthur Harris. The girls have won this week. Who will be absent next week, I wonder.

The Limerick Competition. Winners will be in next week's Corner. I didn't receive many entries, but next time I mean to see quite a lot. Look for the new Limerick. Did I tell you Jacko has a motor car? He got it for Christmas from Santa Claus; imp father, pet mother, and a whole menagerie of rums about now, but always goes in his car. He tootes at every corner, so if you hear a most awful squeak and then see a toy car run round the corner, you'll know it's only Jacko. He charges all the cobbers, but I guess they're used to it by now.

Send in your entries quickly, and I'll be able to give the winner then. Winner of Limerick in Competition Corner.

Beryl Jones has sent me her husband's name. I guess Beryl. You didn't say whether you would have 2/6 or a book. Write or call in and tell me, please.

I haven't succeeded a pet for the girls yet, Ida. Hope you won't forget to enter for the competitions. There's such easy ones. Will use your contribs when I can. Jacko does all kinds of tricks, but not the company. He talks what he calls performing.

Birthday Greetings to Cobbers.

We all wish the happiest and best birthday possible to Sidney Sinclair (Feb. 21), Lily Scrimes (Feb. 22), Cyril Webb (Feb. 24), Arthur Harris (Feb. 24), Keith Arthur and Albert Foote (March 1) from Uncle Phil, Jacko and all the Cobbers.

OUR MAB BAC

4 Langwell's Pde., Northcote.

Dear Uncle Phil,—Am I an only seven years old, my brother is writing this for me. Every weekend I used to take the "Leader" and sit by myself and read the Cobbers' Corner and Naughty Nancy. I like Gweeny the best. I think that a cockatoo or parrot would be a lovely present for the girls. I am sending in a joke, which I hope you will like.

(GOOD.) Elva Stabb.

Welcome, Elva, to the Club, and as long as you think of the things, I don't mind who writes them for you, but I want you to write soon as you can. I'm glad you like Gweeny; she is a good girl, don't you think? Will use your joke if I've room.

4 Langwell's Pde., Northcote.

Dear Uncle Phil,—I have not written since Uncle Arthur went away, but have watched the Cobbers' Club every week. When I was at Mordialloc beach one day at Christmas, four big sharks were diving and playing about 150 yards from the shore. For a pet for the girls I think a possum or a squirrel would be best. I am entering for the other two competitions also.

(GOOD.) Lee, Stabb.

I want an Australian bird or animal. Don't think a squirrel is Australian. Did you enjoy yourself at Mordialloc? Fanny seeing four live sharks at once. It must have been a great sight. Guess you didn't go in swimming that day.

31 Pender St., Thornbury.

Dear Uncle Phil,—I am glad that a girl has won the monkey. Last week I asked my mate to join the club, but I don't think she has written to you yet. I will write some jokes for the Corner also.

No Name.

Will the Cobber who wrote this

York arrive. I have asked my mate to join, but he wouldn't, as his father would not let him. I am very sorry that a girl has won the monkey, as I would have liked a boy to have won it.

(GOOD.) Stanley Hauser.

I'm afraid I won't be able to print your sketches, but I can give you marks for them. They're very good and clever. Write again.

19 High St., South Preston.

Dear Uncle Phil,—I am sending in a few suggestions for a pet for the girls. I think a dear little grey Persian kitten, and call it Fluffy, or else a white white bunny, and call it Snowy, or a Rosella parrot. I am sending a little verse for the Corner, and an answer to the Limerick.

(GOOD.) P. & J. Murray.

Thanks for the suggestions, Phyllis and Jean. Have you received your book and do you like it? I will put your Limerick and tongue twister in the competitions.

Arthur Harris.—Are you going to be in the Corner, arthur? I have heard from my Cobbers. I have posted your certificates; have you received it yet? Jacko sends a piece of love from me.

Keith Harris.—I wonder if Daddy or Mummy would help you write to me, Keith? I'd love to hear from you, new Cobber ever so much. Have you any pets? Love from Jacko and Uncle Phil.

HOW I SPENT CHRISTMAS DAY.

On Christmas morning I was first up. It was about half-past five. Father got up with me and we went to the sitting room. I went out and got mine, then woke up my brother and sister. When we were dressed we went down to the water and saw a big shoal of herring there. We had a late breakfast I looked after Dorcas. Then we had dinner. After dinner we got my money out of the plum pudding. In the afternoon I took my book, which Father Xmas left me, down to the water and read some of the stories. The name of it is "Warne's Presents Book for Girls." After tea my auntie, uncle and cousins came. We then played the planchi with my brother. I enjoyed Xmas Day very much, an' was sorry when bedtime came.

(BETTER.) Phyllis Orr.

WHAT I DID ON CHRISTMAS DAY.

Well, you know, Uncle Phil was away, so I could play up on grandfather and my uncle's yard. I thought I would like to be Santa Claus, and have a Christmas tree and big sacks of toys, but there was no one to give them to but grandfather and my uncle's yard, so what was the good? I woke up about six o'clock and there was shining bootifully. I hopped out of bed and had a look to see if Santa had remembered me. Yes, there was a great pile covered over with a sheet that looked like a corpse, but I guessed it was my presents. I pulled the sheet off and there was a motor car filled with fruit and nuts and lollies from all the family. Santa had left me a stocking with a cap, boots, pans and swords in it. I just had to dress up, I didn't want any breakfast. Then I went round the house in my motor car after the housekeeper, and every now and then I'd pass as I came through and then she'd pass as I came through a door or round a corner squealing to me to stop. It was such fun seeing her get cross, and she tried to shoo me outside, but I wouldn't go. Grandfather got up after a bit, and we went for a walk, at least he had to walk and keep up with my new car. When we got home we listened in to the church service, and then came dinner. It was famous, but I don't like turkey much. I tried to open a bottle of lemonade, and pushed the marble down with my finger, but it all squirted up in my face. The pudding was lovely and I got four threepences in my two helpings. (We had it for dinner next day and I got another one.) I was so sleepy after dinner that I thought I'd have a nap. I lay down on the couch and in a few minutes I heard snore, snore, snore. Grandfather was asleep! I jumped up and got a raisin and next time he did it, dropped it in his mouth. I didn't want to see him trapped. I went out and talked to the galah, but he was also sad and cried out for more for dinner, I rushed in and got her a piece of pudding. Do you know, she found another threepence and a button, so she'll be an old maid. We were over for a cousin's place for tea, and played games and sang. I did some tricks and they gave me ice cream. But it was awfully cold stuff. We came home about ten o'clock, and I was so tired I went straight to bed.

(GOOD.) Jacko.

THE CUTE DOG.

"That's a cute little dog you have got, Bill," Dave said. "I should just say so!" He's a marvellous animal, do you know, we always allow him to have breakfast with us, and treat him as one of the family. Now yesterday the wife forgot to put out his biscuits, and what do you think he did?" Barked for 'em." "Not at all. The smart little fellow went out into the garden and brought in a bunch of flowers, and what do you think they were?" "Dunno." "Forget-me-nots."

(GOOD.) Lorna Yeomans.

PRINCESS BEAUTIFUL.

One day when Princess Beautiful went for a walk in the woods, she lost her way. She rolled on until she came to an old magician's house. When he saw her, he changed her into a beautiful pink rose. He said she would not gain her freedom again until someone asked for a kiss, and say a prince came by, and seeing the beautiful rose, he plucked it and was going to take it to the queen, but he suddenly kissed it, and there in front of him stood a beautiful princess. She told him her story, and he took her back to the castle and married her.

(GOOD.) Florrie Cameron.

A LITTLE TOMBOY.

Her name is Dora but, for fun,
Her brothers call her "Dick."
She's just as tall as Hugh, her twin,
And just as strong and quick.

Yes, she can run as fast as Hugh,
And ride the donkey, too;
And beat the others every time
When up the apple trees they climb

And reach for apples red.
"A little tomboy!" Father smiles;
And Dr. Dora's true.
But, oh, what splendid fun they have—

Jack, "Dora—Dick" and Hugh!
(GOOD.) Violet Whipp.

TWENTY-FIVE WAYS OF SAYING THE SAME THING.

1—The ploughman homeward plods his weary way.
2—The weary ploughman plods his homeward way.
3—The ploughman, weary, plods his homeward way.
4—His homeward way the weary ploughman plods.
5—His homeward way the ploughman, weary, plods.
6—The weary ploughman homeward plods his way.
7—The ploughman, weary, homeward plods his way.
8—His way the weary ploughman homeward plods.
9—His way the ploughman, weary, homeward plods.
10—His way the ploughman homeward, weary, plods.
11—His homeward weary way the ploughman plods.
Weary, the ploughman homeward plods his way.
13—Weary, the ploughman plods his homeward way.
14—Homeward his way the weary ploughman plods.
15—Homeward his way the ploughman, weary, plods.
16—Homeward his weary way the ploughman plods.
17—The ploughman homeward, weary, plods his way.
18—His weary way homeward the ploughman plods.
20—Homeward the ploughman plods his weary way.
21—Homeward the weary ploughman plods his way.
22—The ploughman, weary, his homeward way plods.
23—The ploughman plods his weary homeward way.
24—The ploughman homeward plods his homeward way plods.
25—Weary, his homeward way the ploughman plods.

(GOOD.) H. Scholz.

Word Square:—A scheme; a narrow road; a sure-thing; a boy.

P L A N
L A N E
A N T
N E A T

(GOOD.) Iris Owen.

RIDDLE-ME-REE.

My first is in live,-but not in die;
My second is in sell, but not in buy.
My third is in sugar, and also in pie;
My fourth is in dogfish, but not in fly.

My fifth is in eat, and also in ate;
My sixth is in friend, but not in mate.
My whole is a newspaper that is up-to-date.

Answer—"Leader."

(GOOD.) Sid Singleton.

MYSTIC NUMBERS.

1 x 8 plus 1 makes 9.
12 x 9 plus 2 makes 98.
123 x 8 plus 3 makes 987.
1234 x 8 plus 4 makes 9876.
12345 x 8 plus 5 makes 98765.
123456 x 8 plus 6 makes 987654.
1234567 x 8 plus 7 makes 9876543.
12345678 x 8 plus 8 makes 98765432.
123456789 x 8 plus 9 makes 987654321.

(GOOD.) Fred Smith.

Nearly Perfect.—A Scotsman once bought a horse at a fair. On the way home he thought a drink would refresh it, so he got a pail of water, but on his surprise the animal would not touch it. When he got home he offered it a feed of corn, but the animal would not touch that either. Well, he muttered to himself, 'if only I was sure ye're a good worker ye're the verra horse for me."

Just the Same.—Mrs. Beefy Teer was having her house redecorated. "I've just finished the drawingroom," said the foreman, "what will I do next?" "You can do the dining room on Thursday," said Mrs. Beefy Teer. "What shall I do in the meantime?" "Oh, paper it."

(GOOD.) Aubrey Singleton.

Little Willie—Papa, do tigers go to heaven?" Papa—"No, child." Little Willie—"Well, papa, I'm glad I haven't." Papa—"Yes, certainly." Little Willie—"Well, suppose auntie got eaten by a tiger."

(GOOD.) Florrie Cameron.

What is the difference between a stag, a motor car and a donkey? Well, a stag is one dear (deer), a car is too dear, and a donkey is you (GOOD.) Phyllis Murray.

The small dinner party had reached the dessert stage, when little Joan said: "Will dessert upset me, auntie mummy, or is there enough to go round?"

(GOOD.) Alma Lewis.

How to Tell.—"Doctor, how is a man to tell a mushroom from a toadstool?" "By eating it. If you live it is a mushroom, if you die it is a toadstool."

(GOOD.) Elva Stabb.

Clown.—"I dashed upstairs to get my watch this morning and found that it had done a wonderful thing." Circus Owner.—"Yes, and what was that?" Clown.—"It had run down." (GOOD.) Ivy Hauser.

A Kansas farmer purchased a new solver for his wife, and insisted on target practice, so that she might be able to defend the house in his absence. After a bullet was dug out of his leg and the cow buried, he decided she'd better shoot with an axe.

(GOOD.) Iris Stabb.

I can't remember the words of that new song," said the girl recently from the pantomime. "That makes it easier," said the fellow. "Now you've got to do to make home happy is to forget the tune."

(GOOD.) Anne Crow.

THE ADVENTURES OF GOOD GWENNY AND NAUGHTY NANCY

Now you all know what a Pelican
Is like. Big round saucer eyes
And no proud. He never walked on
four legs, but on two, using the two
front paws as hands. Now this Pelican could climb like a monkey, and a mouse (a dainty all ordinary cats love so much) had no attractions for him. He walked into the ring and looked around, rolling his eyes, then suddenly sprang at a pole and the next minute was rushing like a wild thing all round the roof, clinging to the tent, jumping through hoops, swinging on trapeses by his tail and many other tricks. "Wonderful!" murmured all the passers, "Oh, he's beautiful." Presently a clown came out bowling a hoop and next thing the Pelic cat had leaden on the hoop in front of the hoop. It didn't seem to matter much how he got along. He could walk on two side logs or upside down or anyhow. The hoop rolled over him and he curled up inside. Then the clown lit a match and a great smoke and flame seemed to surround them both. The hoop caught alight and started to roll round and round, as if it would never stop. The Pelic cat was inside, and it seemed as if he would be burnt up, but suddenly he jumped clear of the hoop. Here his audience cheered. He bowed and bowed, but they wouldn't let him go. He most do something new and startling. He jumped in the air over so high, and sat on a piece of wood. Before anyone realised it the wood had started to move, and soon was outside the circus ground. Away it flew with the Pelic sitting on it, and everyone crowded out to see where he was going. On flew the wood till it was out of sight, and Gwenny duly watched her horse he never came back. The cat who wanted to be a Pelic cat and do all those things Gwenny did, would be no more. But when he jumped he fell into that lump of mud that the kind lady added he would scatter to be a tonsil than a Pelic cat. "Here we are nearly home," said Mr. Gwenny, as he finished the story, "and I guess you are very tired, Gwen." "Yes," Gwen replied, "I'm hungry and tired too."

"We'll soon set that right," laughed Mr. Gwenny, as a very cheery woman opened the door to his knock. After supper Gwen and Nancy were tucked into cosy beds by the housekeeper, and were soon fast asleep.

(To be continued.)

COMPETITIONS.

OUR NEW PET.

For the winning suggestion from any Cobber (or more) a book will be given. A prize of 2/6 or a book will be given. Black up, girls, and say what animal or bird you'd like for a pet, and I will get one if I can. Closes March 11.

TONGUE TWISTERS.

Send in a sentence with as many words beginning with the letter "s" as possible in it. A prize of 2/6 will be given for the best. Closes March 11.

Example.—Artful Archie Allan annoyed and created animosity Adams Alford with airy anachronisms.

Winner will be announced on March 11, and marks will be given for other good attempts.

THE COBBERS' CLUB

Please enrol me as a member of the "COBBERS' CLUB."

Name and Age .....

Address .....

Date of Birthday ..... Present Age .....

25/2/ 1927.

Look for "Cobbers' Club" next week.

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Installations of every branch of Lighting, Power or Plant.

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Watches, Jewellery and Silver Plate. All Kinds of Repairs.

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507 HIGH STREET, CROXTON (NORTHCOTE).
(OPPOSITE MEMORIAL HALL).

LIMERICK PRIZE WINNER.

Winning last line goes to Les. Stabb.

There was a young man from Calcutta
Who was a terrible failure to stutter.
He went into a shop
To buy lollipop,
But all he could do was m-m-m-utter.

Les Stabb.

And came out with a pound of butter.
Florrie Cameron.

And then he got all of a flutter.
A. Anaus.

But not a word could he utter.
A. Anaus.

But, coming out, dropped the bag in the gutter.
Sid Singleton.

But found he could only splutter.
Eileen Lynch.

And not a word could he utter.
Cyril Webb.

But instead he asked for some b-b-butter.
Phyllis Kerr.

And they carried him out on a shutter.
Jacko.

NEW LIMERICK—FIND THE LAST LINE.

Find the last line—and you will get a prize. Mr. Marks will be given for other good lines. The competition will be open for one week, till March 11, and winner will be announced on March 18.

There was a young lady of Kew
Who had precious little to do.
When they sent her to school
She merely played the fool,

In due course you will receive a beautiful certificate to say that you are a member of the Club, join now, and tell your friends to join too.

COMPETITION CORNER.

Stories, riddles, catches, jokes, puzzles, short verses or anything you think will be interesting to the Cobbers' Club are to be sent to Uncle Phil, Leader Office, High street, Northcote.

They will be printed or marked—Good, Better, or Best. Good, 5 marks; Better, 10 marks; Best, 15 marks. Send out all your own and keep them until you have 100 marks. Then send to Uncle Phil, and say if you prefer a cash prize of 2/6 or a book. If a book, say the title.

WASHING AND IRONING IS HARD WORK.
LET US DO IT FOR YOU AND AVOID THE DRUDGERY AT HOME.

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656 HIGH STREET, THORNBURY. Phone—Northcote 2204.
Collins, 4th each; Brass Shirts 9d; Stud Shirts, 7d. Will please the most fastidious Gent.
Quilts—Single, 4d each; double, 5/3 pair.
Blankets—Single, 1/3 pair; double, 1/3 pair.
Sheets—Single, 3d each; double, 4d each.
Table Cloths, 6d each
And all other articles washed. Latest Laundered Like New.
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(L. S. Dillon, Prop.)
514-518 High Street (Next Memorial Hall).
NEW AND SECOND-HAND CARS.
Authorised District Agents and Service Station
BUDDY CARS AND BEAN TRUCKS.
FINANCE ARRANGED.
Repairs and Overhauls All Makes of Cars.
Special Rates Commercial Vehicles.
ENQUIRE RE OUR SERVICE.

NOTICE.
J. W BLITZ SURGEON DENTIST
(Late City). Only Address—344 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
Few doors from Northcote Picture Theatre.
All the most Up-to-date Methods of Dentistry, including Gold Crown and Bridge Work. Repairs done at Shortest Notice.
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Mr PROPERTY OWNER
A Word with You
IT IS AN ACKNOWLEDGED FACT
That all the woodwork about your house must be painted—and kept painted—if it would be properly preserved and presented in appearance possible.
Your spare time could not be spent to better or more satisfactory advantage than protecting and decorating your home.
We have everything you require for painting, papering or general decorating. We will estimate the quantities you need and offer expert advice and suggestions, gained from years of experience, gladly and freely.
THE PRICES ARE THE LOWEST.
These few lines here picked at random will give you an idea of the lowness of the prices now ruling at PIGDEON'S.
PAINTS, ETC.
FERGUSSON'S WHITE LEAD ..... 67/- cwt
AUSTRALIAN RAW LINSEED OIL ..... 2/6 gal.
CALCIMO ..... 2/6 gal.
SUPERIOR BRAND READY MIXED PAINT ..... 1/10 gal.
PRESCOLINE COLD WATER PAINT ..... 1/10 gal.
GILL WHITE ..... 10lb. tins, 4/9
Sis. BRISTLE BRUSHES ..... from 2/-
AGENT FOR RICKSHA PAINTS, GOODLASS WALL PAINTS, ETC. BERGER'S PAINTS. TAUBMAN'S STAINS, ETC., MAJORA PAINTS, ETC.
WALLPAPERS, ETC.
WALLPAPERS ..... From 4d Roll.
SANITAS ENAMELLED CLOTH ..... 2/3 yard.
Call in today and select your needs. Remember it's an acknowledged fact that good workmanship preserves, and it is also acknowledged fact that PRIDGEON'S is the best-value store for Paint and Wallpapers.

How to Join the Cobbers' Club

Fill in form at the bottom of the page and address to
UNCLE PHIL,
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High St., Northcote.
In due course you will receive a beautiful certificate to say that you are a member of the Club, join now, and tell your friends to join too.

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PAINT AND WALLPAPER STORE.
391 High Street, Northcote
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CLARK'S FAMOUS BALANCED POULTRY FOODS.
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Only Sydney Produce Merchants:—
Clifton Hill—MESSRS. SLATTS & SLATTER. Northcote—A. E. Hall & Co. Preston—G. Wing. Coburg—COBURG FUEL SUPPLY. Preston—N. ALEXANDER, J. PARKER, WILLIS AND BAYNES PTY. LTD. J. HARVEY; Reservoir, H. T. POCOCK.
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REAR NORTHCOTE PICTURE THEATRE
LATE ADDRESS 443 HIGH ST.

Necklets in Laset Patterns
"The skilful work of experts in matching precious stones and creating master pieces in design and setting, enables us to show you numerous dainty necklets for your selection.
"My Lady", whoe'er she may be, could not help appreciating such a gift of unique charm.
May we show you necklets set in your favourite Stone and made in favoured patterns?
Wm. THACKRAY
313 High St., NORTHCOTE.

Every Mouthful Nutritious
The Highest Amount of Nutrition Possible is Guaranteed by
McALPIN'S
HIGH GRADE BREAD
Under a New Process we are adding the Purest and Best Quality Milk—Our Bread also contains Malt—
YET
There is No Extra Cost to You
10½d per Large Loaf Delivered
Try also our Superior Wheaten Meal and Vienna Bread.
"The Proof is in the Eating"
Prompt Attention to All Orders.
J. McALPIN & SONS
213 Langridge Street, Abbotsford.
Phone J3128

Extraordinary
TAILORING OFFER
Owing to the Tremendous Response to our Unique "No Deposit" Offer, we are extending it during March.
High Class Tailor Made Suit to Measure
ON OUR EASY "PAY AS YOU WEAR" SYSTEM.
5/- WEEKLY No Deposit
Australian All Wool Tweeds 95/-
Indigo Blue Twill, good weight 115/-
Large Range of Fancy Grey Worsteds and Basket Pattern Twills.
YOU TAKE NO RISK. WE GUARANTEE SATISFACTION.
Write, Call or Phone for Patterns. Only Address—
E. L. GATES
473 High Street, Croxton
Phone Northcote 842

FULL 24 HOURS' SERVICE
PICKED UP FREE!
DELIVERED FREE!
6/-
A boon to housewives and others who have not already a VACUUM CLEANER of their own. Kiernan's leave it
Cheaper than the usual hired help, and infinitely more satisfactory.

KIERNAN'S
220-8 SMITH ST., COLLINGWOOD
132 BRIDGE ROAD, RICHMOND.
291-3 ELIZABETH ST., MELBOURNE.

GROWL FROM PRESTON
WHAT'S WRONG WITH WEST PRESTON?
(To the Editor).
Sir,—People are asking here why West Preston is treated so differently to the other parts. From all sides we are getting "rats." First of all our council bought us a "park." It's on Cherry road, near tram line, and was a clay pit belonging to a brick company. Of course it had to be filled up, and this is what the council bought it for. All the rubbish and filth of the West Ward is being carted into it, along with dead horses, cows and cats. The pungent smell now attracted rats from miles around. The vermin, after eating up all the animal matter and as many of themselves as they possibly could, have now invaded the neighborhood in hordes within a mile radius. They are burrowing and eating the gardens, destroying choice flowers, and nothing escapes their voracious appetites. They are burrowing under carpets, linen and wearing apparel. On getting up one morning one's footwear from the top of the bed is often eaten off.

This is our "park!" The council is borrowing £50,000 to buy more parks. But none of this is for West Preston. Our civic fathers know us not. West Preston has got its park—and rats. And West Preston has got nothing to recompense it. Other districts are provided with more than half the revenue of Preston. Our main thoroughfare, Gilbert road, is in a disgraceful condition. This, with Miller street, is the worst-kept road in town. In wet weather these streets would "bog a duck," while in the dry season you can't see across the road for dust. A few years this highway will rival High street, Preston, as it now awards of 100 business places either built or projected. And most of these are of the shanty type. Not content to say, the only part of Gilbert road that has ever received any attention the council is that north of Murray road. And this part is schoolled as being a continuation of Bell street, but the abutting owners have it put for it. A few months ago the council almost sole was advertised on Rozent street map, and pressed hard to do it here road, especially as it is the only approach to the Technical School. Gilbert road, West Preston, is the only charge. Preston to Thornbury, and the usual hired help, and infinitely more satisfactory.

Vacuum Cleaner
IN YOUR OWN HOME.
Think of the work you can do in a few hours with one of these hungry-for-dust Cleaners! Light, easily portable, easy running, can be attached in a second to any wiring fitting—a child could operate it. Every spot in the house easily accessible—Carpets, Walls, Upholstery, Curtains, Clothing, Pictures—every thing—it goes under, over and above everything, and swallows the dust dirt, threads and pieces. See about yours—NOW. WRITE, PHONE or CALL at the nearest of the three Kiernan shops.

PRESTON FOOTBALL CLUB
BUMPER ANNUAL MEETING
YEAR'S MAGNIFICENT ACHIEVEMENTS.
BRIGHT PROSPECTS FOR COMING SEASON.
The annual meeting of the Preston Football Club was held in the Preston Town Hall last Tuesday evening, when there was a very large and enthusiastic attendance, presided over by the club's president (Mr. H. P. Zwar). Such a gathering was a decided encouragement to the committee, and augurs well for the coming season.

Mr. Zwar extended a hearty welcome to all, and made a strong appeal to those present to extend to the club the same support as had been extended during the past season. While the available material at the club's disposal, the committee were hopeful of putting a strong team in the field

ANNUAL REPORT.

The annual report stated that the season 1926, the Preston club's first season in senior football, as a competing club in V.F.A., had been a most successful, Preston gaining fifth place in the premiership list. The club, in the early part of the season, had been handicapped by lack of ground, as Kelvin Grove was not ready for the services of Senior Football. However, the committee had been successful in securing the use of Bell street, which had just arrived from Bellamy's, the name dealers. On receiving it the ground underwent considerable improvement at the hands of Dr. Bergin, of Germany, which greatly improved the drainage. Lime and hydrogen under a pressure of 1,000 atmosphere and a temperature of 4,500 deg. cent.; and synthetic processes, of which Dr. Franz Fisher, was the originator, are regarded as the primary investigator. The coal was carbonised to produce coke, semi-coke, and tars, then water gas was produced from the coke, and from the water gas was produced synthetic combustibles. Where the primary object was the production of oils these processes had to be considered as an alternative to straight carbonisation in the light of present knowledge on the whole subject.

Dr. Bergin's process, added Mr. Zwar, had been developed by John Monash, had for about four years been under the carbonisation experiments, first in the laboratory, and afterwards in a plant approaching commercial size, and after successful trials on a "pilot" carbonising plant. The committee, the club's objective, however, had not in view of such a big undertaking, and accepted the remainder. I now proceeded with our dressing, but only a few minutes had passed when my friend, Paul Arthur, entered. He had a parcel in his hand, and as he arrived at the stage door per special invitation, he was asked to open the "urgent" he volunteered to bring it to me. I opened it and found it contained a bottle of whisky and a tonic. This again was sent without the name of the donor, but I suppose her of dear good friends I possessed! But what could I do with it? I am, unfortunately, not in the habit of using stimulant, but catching a glimpse of Paul's face, I thought he looked a bit tired, as well as a gas that should be every way suitable for one in a small town or a large city, although some of its characteristics were slightly different from black coal. In the investigations conducted so far the committee had found that the oils which had been produced in the process of carbonising had done for the club had been a pleasure, because as a citizen he felt it his duty to do all he could for the benefit of the public. Preston had a team which proved the game, both on and off the field, and they were a credit to the city. It was a pleasure to help those who through no fault of their own were unable to help themselves. He was pleased to be associated with the team, and looked forward to further good times with the boys.

MUSICAL PROGRAMME.

During the counting of the ballot a pleasing programme was rendered by Miss Hare and Messrs. Nelson (who capably officiated at the piano), Sinclair and Horwood, whilst Mr. Jack Brady kept the large audience in a merry mood with some songs during the singing of which he betrays a personality all his own. All the members are enthusiastically encored.

TRAINING OPERATIONS.

Players and all aspirants for inclusion in the team's 1927 season are reminded that training operations will commence on Saturday, March 26.

A SLIGHT MISTAKE.

(BY AN ACTOR.)

I met with one of the greatest surprises of my life on my arrival the other night at Melbourne Station. I found lying on the floor of my free compartment a large trophy of a beautiful clock.

On the voice of a committee, Mr. W. ("Bolla") White was elected as the most consistent player, consequently he was presented with a silver cake stand. As Mr. White had also joined the benedicts, the club made him a wedding present of a beautiful cake stand also. Mr. Geo. Crowe, also was unanimously elected Reserve's first, and he was awarded Mr. Scaling's prize.

The gold medal for Preston's best follower, donated by Mr. A. Madden, went to Bro. J. Chidley (Reserves).

SPORTS MEETING PRIZES.

At the conclusion of the season the team were given an outing at Yarra Glen, when a sports meeting was run the following being the successful competitors:—Messrs. Wing, D. Hume, D. Warr, A. Madden and Bert. Crowe, all of whom were among the recipients of their respective prizes.

MR. ZWAR'S SERVICES RECOG-NISED.

Mr. Tom Ralph, one of the club's vice-presidents, said the club was deserving of recognising the fine services rendered to the club by their president (Mr. H. P. Zwar), and he merited the confidence entrusted in him three years ago. They had been fortunate in having had presidents, as they had always manifested every desire to help, and in order made against him at Northcote court for £9/7/4.

Schwarz said that he had paid £1 off the order. He was married and had three children to maintain. He ran a bus and his takings were £25 per week, but was paying off his bus, and had to employ drivers, buy petrol and provide for running costs.

In order words he could not answer to be paid at the rate of £1 per week for the order. He was going to pay £3/7/ 6-sis. in default imprisonment.

A man called on a lawyer, and said: "What can I do to a boy who threw a stone and broke one of my windows?" "Ask his father to pay for the damage." "Then perhaps you will hand me over 4/-," said the man, "it was you son that did it." "Certainly," replied the lawyer. "If you give me 2/6, the amount of my fee, we shall be quite."

Commercial and General
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ORDERS
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"Leader" Office, Northcote
Phone, Northcote 46

DISTILLING OIL
MORWELL COAL TO BE USED.

The chairman of the State Electricity Commission (Sir John Monash) has made an interesting statement concerning the negotiations in London, with a capital of £250,000, of the Sentinel Colliery Company. The company has been formed for the immediate development of the Morwell coal and oil shale fields. It is arranging to obtain machinery similar to that used in Germany to distill coal, and expects that the process will ultimately be able to supply all Australia's requirements of both refined spirit and heavy oils.

Sir John Monash said that the cable message had indicated that the new company would establish its own mines, and, from the coal produced, win oils by what is known as the sensible heating distillation. Presumably it was intended to heat the coal charge by hot gases passed inside the retort, instead of by heat applied externally to the retort. As the yield of oil from brown coal and coal would not be very high to the ton of coal, very large quantities of coal would have to be dealt with to secure any production on a useful commercial scale. Obviously, also, very large capital expenditure would be involved. Technically it was possible to obtain much greater yields of oil from a ton of coal, whether brown or black, by other methods than carbonisation, but none of these was germinative, the process of Dr. Bergin, of Germany, which had been improved by Franz Fisher, and hydrogen under a pressure of 1,000 atmosphere and a temperature of 4,500 deg. cent.; and synthetic processes, of which Dr. Franz Fisher, was the originator, are regarded as the primary investigator. The coal was carbonised to produce coke, semi-coke, and tars, then water gas was produced from the coke, and from the water gas was produced synthetic combustibles. Where the primary object was the production of oils these processes had to be considered as an alternative to straight carbonisation in the light of present knowledge on the whole subject.

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NORTHCOTE COURT
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22.

Before Mr. J. Macnamara, P.M., and Messrs. J. Olsen, P.J. Sweeney, H. J. Jones, H. Evans and P. H. Mayer, J.'s.P.

Maintenance.

Kaibben Sibel Reed secured an order against his estranged husband, William Reid, Latrobe street, East Melbourne, for £2/5/- a week for herself and £1/5/- per week for each of two children.

Amy Wood sued John McLeod, of Lorne, for £19 arrears of maintenance. An order was made that defendant be imprisoned until payment was made.

Debt.

W. S. Nicholas Pty. Ltd. obtained an order against W. Andrewartha for £1/13/-, and 15/- costs.

Harvey and Norris secured an order against — Roberts for £9/14/- and £1/1/- costs. Mr. R. Gray appeared for complainants.

Fraud Summons.

Nathan Schwarz, Queens street, East Brunswick, bus owner, appeared to answer a fraud summons, an order made against him at Northcote court for £9/7/4.

Schwarz said that he had paid £1 off the order. He was married and had three children to maintain. He ran a bus and his takings were £25 per week, but was paying off his bus, and had to employ drivers, buy petrol and provide for running costs.

In order words he could not answer to be paid at the rate of £1 per week for the order. He was going to pay £3/7/ 6-sis. in default imprisonment.

A man called on a lawyer, and said: "What can I do to a boy who threw a stone and broke one of my windows?" "Ask his father to pay for the damage." "Then perhaps you will hand me over 4/-," said the man, "it was you son that did it." "Certainly," replied the lawyer. "If you give me 2/6, the amount of my fee, we shall be quite."

STOTT SON & WATSON

NORTHCOTE'S OLDEST ESTABLISHED AUCTIONEER, ESTATE AND INSURANCE AGENTS.

Largest List of Properties in Districts of Northcote, Preston, Fairfield.

IT WILL PAY YOU TO CONSULT US.

Head Office—203 HIGH STREET (Cor. Westbourne Grove).

Branches—HIGH ST., THORNBURY, Cor. Dundas Street.
HIGH ST., PRESTON, opposite Post Office.
RAILWAY PLACE, FAIRFIELD, opposite Station.
Phone—Northcote 854-855.

FRANCIS BATES
(Late F. Lodlow),
PRESTON CITY ESTATE AGENCY,
With over 20 years' practical experience of the building trade. Clients can be assured of Expert, Careful and Thorough Attention to their requirements.

SEE BATES,
274 HIGH STREET, PRESTON
(Near Star Theatre).
Motor Inspection. Phone—Northcote 1247.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2,
On the property at 2 o'clock,
Under instructions from Walter B. Hosse, Esq., Curator of Estates of deceased persons,
14 HARPER ST., NORTHCOTE 5TH.
Few minutes Westward Preston High St. tram. Land 66ft. x 104ft., with 6-roomed W.B. Cottage, to be offered as a whole or in two lots, as follows:—
LOT 1—Vacant Land 33ft. x 104ft.
LOT 2—W.B. Cottage, on land 33ft. x 104ft.
Terms—If sold in one lot, half cash; balance 2 years, 7½ per cent. Otherwise terms at sale.
MEMBERS' F. & DEANE,
Auctioneer, 17 Queen St., Melbourne

Church Notices.

Alterations for this column must be to hand by Wednesday night.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, PRESTON.
HARVEST THANKSGIVING.
Morning and Evening—Rev. A. C. Kellaway, M.A.

HOLY TRINITY, THORNBURY.
HARVEST THANKSGIVING.
11 a.m., Rev. W. J. Harris.
7 p.m., Rev. J. H. Bates.
Gifts of produce will be sent to the Fitzroy Ministers.
You are Heartily Invited.

NORTHCOTE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (James Street).
HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICES.
11 a.m., "God's Purpose in Prosperity." Rev. John Bates.
7 p.m., Rev. W. J. Harris.
An invitation to attend is extended.
Minister—REV. JOHN H. BATES.

PRESTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DAVID ST.
Services 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Minister—Rev. W. H. McCook, B.A., B.D.

REGENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
State School, Tyler St., Nth. Preston.
Everyone Welcome.

SOUTH PRESTON METHODIST CHURCH.
SOUTH PRESTON.
11 a.m. Mr. Gray.
7 p.m., Conference Supply.
PARKVILLE GROVE.
HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES.
11 a.m., Conference Supply.
7 p.m., Mr. Burvill.

NORTHCOTE METHODIST CHURCHES.
HIGH STREET.
CONFERENCE SUNDAY.
11 a.m., Rev. W. Hocking.
7 p.m., Rev. G. R. Nelson.
PRINCE OF WALES PARK.
11 a.m., Rev. W. A. Hales.
7 p.m., Rev. J. Williams.
ST. GEORGE'S ROAD.
11 a.m., Rev. G. R. Nelson.
7 p.m., Rev. Hemingway.
CROXTON.
11 a.m., Rev. Hemingway.
7 p.m., Conference Supply.

PRESTON METHODIST CHURCHES.
PRESTON.
HARVEST FESTIVAL.
11 a.m., Conference Supply.
7 p.m., Conference Supply.
THOMASTOWN.
11 a.m., Mr. Belchton.
7 p.m., Mr. Perkins.
WEST PRESTON.
11 a.m., Conference Supply.
7 p.m., Conference Supply.
RESERVOIR.
BAPTIST CHURCH, HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE.
10 a.m., Men's Meeting. Mr. J. O. Hughes.
11 a.m., "All Men are Brothers."
7 p.m., "The Man Nobody Knows."
Wednesday, 8 p.m., Bible School.
All Welcome.
Minister—Rev. Donald McNicol.

CHURCH OF CHRIST,
High Street, Northcote.
11 a.m., Worship.
8 p.m., Bible School.
7 p.m., Gospel Service. Mr. J. C. F. Pittman. Subject—"Whiter Than Snow."

THE SALVATION ARMY,
West Preston, Bonnell st.
Commandant Curtis: 7 p.m., Captain Mrs. Knight. Thursday, 8 p.m., March 3, Adjutant McKenzie will speak on Chinese Customs. All Adjutant will appear in Chinese national costume.

Phone—Heidelberg 377, Central 2554.

JAMES M. HAY (Late A.I.F.),
Public Accountant and Auditor,
City Office, 421 Bourke St., Melbourne.
Private address—"Scotia," Francis St., Nth.
Letters Promptly Attended To.

WEDDING.
BRADY—WILLIS.—On February 1, 1927, at West Preston Methodist Church, by Rev. Jas. A. Gault, Harold S., eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Brady, of Northcote, to Eva, only daughter of the late Mr. C. F. Wallis and Mrs. Wallis, of "Keynsham," William St., Preston.

WEDDING.
ASLING—SMITH.—On January 22, 1927, at Holy Trinity Church, Thornbury, by Rev. Waverley Sims, Gertrude, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. Smith, Arthurton road, Northcote, to Charles, third son of Mr. and Mrs. Asling, "Sea View," Narre Warren.

DEATH.
BROWNE.—On the 20th February, at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Taylor, of Collins St., Preston, William James, dearly beloved husband of Mary Ann (nee Hurst), loved father of Nellie (Mrs. A. D. Aird), Charles, Olive (Mrs. C. H. Shedy), William, and Lottie (Mrs. D. Taylor), aged 65 years, late of Eaglehawk. (Private Interment). Peacefully Sleeping.

THANKS.
MR. and MRS. W. FERGUSON and MISS. EDITH desire to express their sincere THANKS to all kind friends and relatives for letters, cards, telegrams, floral tributes, and personal sympathy in their recent sad bereavement. Will all please accept this as a personal acknowledgment and appreciation. 176 High St. Northcote.

The Leader

Published Every Friday Morning.

JUSTICE TO ALL.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1927.

ITEMS OF NEWS.

On Sunday last the shop of Florence Fishman, Plenty road, Preston, was broken into and about £1/4/- in mixed silver stolen.

At Preston court on Thursday a number of cottiers were fined for having allowed stock to wander, and in under was made to sell a horse, the owner of which was unknown.

A special order, for regulation 17, of the Northcote City Council, has been adopted by the council, and will be submitted for confirmation on March 21. A notice concerning this regulation appears elsewhere.

On Monday last a side window of the home of Mrs. Claude Hamilton, Murray road, Preston, was forced, and the house was ransacked. A fur coat valued at £17 was stolen. Preston police are inquiring.

Preston boasts of quite a fine number of justices of the Peace, but in the absence of the Police Magistrate, difficulty is often experienced in obtaining sufficient for a bench. When the opening of the court is delayed on this account, there is some talk of arranging a roster.

Messrs. Robertson and O'Donnell, of High street, Croxton, were the successful tenderers for electric light installation at the Church of England, Northcote. About five tenders were received. This speaks well for Messrs. Robertson and O'Donnell, who have recently executed several big tender works in Northcote and Preston.

Notice is given by the City of Northcote regarding a special order for by-law 40, for consolidating and managing and preserving commons and public reserves, and for management is vested in the council, and for imposing, collecting and receiving fees for clubs etc., or pleasure grounds or places of public resort or public recreation, as more hereby adopted."

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that a Meeting of the said Council will be held at the Council Chambers, Town Hall, Northcote, on the 21st day of March, 1927, at 7.30 o'clock p.m. to consider the said resolution for passing the By-law WILL BE SUBMITTED FOR CONFIRMATION.

A Copy of the above-mentioned By-law has been deposited at the office of the Council, Town Hall, Northcote, and is open for inspection by any person interested, during office hours.

Dated this 23rd day of February, 1927.

J. A. THOMSON,
Town Clerk.

Municipal Offices, Northcote,
23/2/1927.

CITY OF NORTHCOTE.

REGULATION NO. 17.

SPECIAL ORDER.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at a Meeting of the Council of the City of Northcote, held at the Council Chamber on the 21ST DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1927, the said Council DID AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION, That is to say:—

"That the Regulation No. 17, made under Section 1 of Part 8 of the Thirteenth Schedule is force in the City of Northcote, by virtue of a By-law of the abovenamed city rumbered one, for prohibiting or restraining the use of combustible materials in the construction, alteration, repair or removal of buildings, walls, chimneys, fuses, smoke vents or stove pipes, or parts thereof, respectively specified in this Regulation, and for regulating the size, thickness, construction, or materials of party walls of buildings adjoining each other, and of the external walls of buildings and of chimneys, and the materials for and mode of erection of same, and for other purposes, be and is hereby adopted."

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that a Meeting of the said Council will be held at the Council Chambers, Town Hall, Northcote, on the 21st day of March, 1927, at 7.30 o'clock in the evening, when the said resolution for passing the By-law WILL BE SUBMITTED FOR CONFIRMATION.

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Dated this 23rd day of February, 1927.

J. A. THOMSON,
Town Clerk.

Municipal Offices, Northcote,
23/2/1927.

NORTHCOTE THEATRE

Friday and Saturday
February 25 and 26
"Aloma of the Seas"
(Gilda Grey)
and
"April Fool"

Voting all the week in
MISS NORTHCOTE COMPETITION

First Semi-final commences on Monday, March 7, and on Monday, March 12

Next Heat
MISS NORTHCOTE COMPETITION

Moving Pictures taken on the Stage on Each Night.

Personal Appearance of Competitors Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Pictures of Competitors will be shown in this Theatre, Friday and Saturday.

First-class Picture Programme all the Week.

PRESTON'S REPRESENTATIVE ON THE M.M.B.W.

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—At a largely attended meeting of the Preston Ratepayers Association held on Wednesday evening, February 23, the following motions were unanimously carried:—That this association enters a strong protest against the action of the Preston Council in displacing Cr. Crispe as its representative on the Board of Works after 27 years of faithful service, without any apparent reason. That this association has the utmost confidence in Cr. Crispe's ability to represent Preston on the Board of Works controversy, and that this council is deserving of the very best thanks of the ratepayers of Preston in general, and West Preston in particular, for the vast amount of faithful and able service he has done for the district during his 27 years as representative of Preston on the Board of Works committee.—Yours, etc.,

C. F. CHAPMAN.

February 24/1927.

ALLAN L. HUGHES, M.A., L.L.M.,

BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR,
26 Elizabeth St., City, 'phone Central 5497, may be consulted at 72 High St., Northcote (phone Xcote 1252) on Tuesday evenings, 7.30 to 8.30, or by appointment, or at his address, Studley Park, St. Northcote: phone Xcote 1252.

W. A. PORTEOUS,

HIGH CLASS TAILOR.
ARLINGTON CHAMBERS, 229 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE.

Wishes to notify that he is still Carrying on Business at above address, where Cut, Style and Satisfaction are Guaranteed.

Private Address—Collins St., Preston, where appointments can be made.

THE NORTHCOTE WEST WARD PROGRESS ASSOCIATION.

(Non-Political)—Northcote Branch.

PURPOSE: POWER: PROGRESS.
A MEETING will be held in SCHOOL HALL, Hallet St., on TUESDAY, MARCH 1, at 8 p.m.
To deal with the Rate Collecting from Oakover Road Rubbish Tip, and other important business.
Ratepayers and Residents invited to attend.

J. A. HOGAN,
Secretary, 2 Wootton Av.

TO LET, two unfurnished rooms and use of all conv. 21 Flinders St., Thornbury.

CHURCH NEWS.

James Street Presbyterian Harvest Festival.

Harvest festival services will be held next Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. in the James Street Presbyterian church. The preacher at the morning service will be Rev. John Bates, and the special preacher for the evening Rev. W. J. Harris, who will conduct the service. The public are cordially invited to attend.

Thornbury Presbyterian.

A very successful concert arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery, was rendered in the school hall on Wednesday, February 16. The Rev. W. J. Harris, who presided, heartily thanked the organisers and the artists. The debt reduction fund will be benefitted by the proceeds.

Preston Methodist Church.

With Mr. Wyatt, the newly appointed organist, the Croxton choir gave a special service on Sunday evening, rendering Dr. Herridge's cantata, "A Harvest Song of Praise," before a crowded congregation. The evening was full of praise, and the choir rendered the solos, Miss E. Freeman, Mrs. Wyatt, and Mr. Harold Allison, for the capable handling of their respective parts, and the anthems, although a little hazy in earlier parts, were of more than ordinary merit. The choir, and become particularly fine in the number "The Lord Reigneth." Mr. Wyatt presided at the organ, and portion of a paling fence were severely damaged. Fencing of adjoining houses were also damaged. The Northcote brigade quelled the outbreak.

A deputation representing the Northcote City Council waited on the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Bourchier) on Tuesday, requesting that the keeping of cows in certain portions of the City of Northcote should be prohibited. Interviewed by the deputation, Mr. J. Cain, M.L.A., said that the Northcote Council had endeavored to have a bill prohibiting the keeping of cows in crowded areas. The council had found that cows in the built-up areas were allowed to wander about, and become a nuisance to residents. The matter was brought before Parliament, and the clause was struck out. Mr. Bourchier said that he would ask the officers of the department to look into the matter, with a view to remedying the position.

On Monday last a side window of the home of Mrs. Claude Hamilton, Murray road, Preston, was forced, and the house was ransacked. A fur coat valued at £17 was stolen. Preston police are inquiring.

Preston boasts of quite a fine number of justices of the Peace, but in the absence of the Police Magistrate difficulty is often experienced in obtaining sufficient for a bench. When the opening of the court is delayed on this account, there is some talk of arranging a roster.

Messrs. Robertson and O'Donnell, of High street, Croxton, were the successful tenderers for electric light installation at the Church of England, Northcote. About five tenders were received. This speaks well for Messrs. Robertson and O'Donnell, who have recently executed several big tender works in Northcote and Preston.

Notice is given by the City of Northcote regarding a special order for by-law 40, for consolidating and managing and preserving commons and public reserves, and for management is vested in the council, and for imposing, collecting charges for pleasure grounds or places of public resort, has been adopted by the council, and will be submitted for confirmation by the council on March 21.

At Preston Health Centre last Wednesday Sister F. F. M. Holland gave a lecture on "The Care of Milk in the Home; and its relation to the cause of summer diarrhoea in the young." The lecture was accompanied by a demonstration on the care of milk and the cleansing of babies' feeding bottles. There was a very large attendance of mothers. A report of the lecture will appear in our next issue.

Gross disregard is being shown for the convenience of pedestrians in Northcote by the action of those responsible for storing a quantity of road forming material on the footpath at the intersection of Arthurton road with High street. Over the last week-end a heap of road metal remained on the footpath crossing, and all pedestrians had to circumnavigate this. Ever since the footpath has been blocked up. Why on earth should the parties responsible have such a glaring lack of foresight or complete disregard for those who are so heavily taxed? It is to be hoped the heaps will be cleared away immediately, and steps taken to expedite the construction of Arthurton road, which has been closed for nearly a month.

NORTHCOTE FOOTBALL CLUB

ANNUAL MEETING
WILL BE HELD AT THE
NORTHCOTE TOWN HALL (Small Hall)
ON
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 1927,
AT 8 P.M.

VOTING FOR ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS—7 to 9 p.m.

Ballot Papers obtained on production of Members' Ticket for 1926.

NOMINATIONS

President—W. S. STOTT.

Vice-presidents (Six to be elected)—H. F. ACKERAY, A. H. OLDIS, S. AVISON, J. CAIN, W. COCKRAM, M. C. DAVIES, W. S. NEELANDS, F. POWER, C. A. STEWART, J. SAUNDERS.

Committee (Seven to be Elected)—R. COX, A. DENNIS, H. J. DICKINSON, J. FERGUSON, F. S. KRYGGER, W. G. LAMBERT, E. McGLASHAN, E. SEE, R. ROSANOVE, A. E. RASMUSSEN, P. W. TOMKINS, T. TRAINOR, T. WERREY.

Secretary (One to be Elected)—M. SHEEHY, L. WALSH.

Assistant Secretary (One to be Elected) G. DEAN, W. REID.

Treasurer (One to be Elected)—C. E. GEORGE, H. MORRIS.

Answers to advertisements may be addressed in care of "The Leader" free of charge.

To demonstrate the value of advertising your wants and merchandise through the "Leader" in the Friday Booster Bargain Column, we will insert above form. Advertisements must not exceed 24 words, and must contain the following information in connection with the "Leader." Persons sending in advertisements must also enclose a penny stamp to cover postage.

FRIDAY BOOSTER BARGAINS

FREE ADVERTISING FORM.

"The Leader" Small Advertisements Bring Good Results.

ADVERTISE YOUR NEEDS and look for them in "The Leader." Many thousands scan these columns weekly.

WRITE YOUR ADVERTISEMENT ON THIS FORM, AND HAND IT TO YOUR NEWS AGENT OR SEND DIRECT TO THE OFFICE.

Number of Insertions Required

Name

Address

Amount Enclosed

Signature

TRADERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

NORTHCOTE SECTION.

A meeting of the executive of the Northcote and Croxton sections has been arranged. Owing to the fact that the Town Planning Commission, through Mr. Thorn, had applied to have this area reserved for a park.

Although it is useless for sentimental reasons to destroy beautiful and rugged and broken features furnished by the hand of scenic beauty, which he thought should be preserved for the enjoyment of the people. He was certain that the people would take full advantage of the opportunity which this park would afford them for enjoying pleasant outings.

In the depth of the gullies there was a profusion of ferns and other beautiful plant life. From the tops of the various spurs beautiful vistas of mountain and valley could be seen. The panoramas included views of Melbourne and suburbs, and even of the bay.

The Kinglake country is too little known to tourists, though it has long been a happy hunting ground for bushwalking enthusiasts. Lately, too, motorists have been favoring the road around Hurstbridge, through Queenstown, to Kinglake.

Animal life is fairly plentiful in the district, and he knew when he was a boy he often saw the native bear, "possums, bandicoots, echidnas, and other similar species are among the wild animals. The National Park will be sanctuary for native fauna.

PERSONAL.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Werrey, of Northcote, have returned from a visit to Queenscliff, Sorrento and Lakes Entrance. They have returned by the splendid motor tour and covered 900 miles.

Mr. and Mrs. Burch, who have been in Northcote since coming to Australia over 30 years ago, left on Tuesday by the Orvieto for the old country. Mr. Burch has been associated during that time with the firm of Fay and Gibson's, Smith street. The congregation of the James Street Presbyterian Church, where Mr. and Mrs. Burch have been worshipping for 36 years, made presentations last Saturday. Mr. Burch has been the envelope secretary, and has proved a hard working and efficient office-bearer. Mrs. Burch was presented with a travelling case, and Mr. Burch with a pair of field glasses. Rev. John Bates, on behalf of the congregation, wished them bon voyage and a safe return to Northcote.

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To-night and Saturday—"The Mystery Club," "The Qualified Adventurer." Vaudeville, The Siscos.

Monday to Wednesday—"Wild Bull's Lair," "Moran of the Mounted."

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FRIDAY BOOSTER BARGAINS

Thrifty householders are advised to watch the For Sale and Wanted columns for their needs. A Special Column of Friday Booster Bargains will appear next

SOCIAL EVENING AT PRESTON.

HOWE AND CO.'S EMPLOYES.

At Preston Town Hall on Wednesday evening the employees of Messrs. Howe and Co. Pty. Ltd. held their annual social evening, at which trophies won at the recent picnic were presented.

Despite the warm night there was a very large gathering, and sociability was the order of the evening. Dancing was indulged in and a fine programme was rendered, the principal items being Miss L. Booth, Miss Coleman, Mr. Booth and Mr. O. Bell. The programme was interspersed with musical number by the "Co-ees" (Messrs. Howe and Co.). Mr. Howe "Come to Stay," and "Like Stars Above, Mr. O. Bell; humorous, Mr. Howe "Fleeting Hour," Miss Coleman; song, "A Heart That's Free," Miss L. Booth; and a comic song, "Through the Rye."

During the interval new records were received and encores demanded. Messrs. Burke and Bell kept their audience in a furore of laughter. Community singing number was appropriate and well rendered. The accompanist requires no introduction, as her musical ability is well known.

At the interval Mr. H. H. Krohn, a director of Messrs. Howe and Co. Pty. Ltd., the president of the social club, presented the trophies. Mr. Krohn said he was pleased to see such a large attendance. He was glad to see the man who had carried out the picnic arrangements a willing and able manner. The prize winners were:—

Youths' race—J. Thompson 1, R. Underhill 2, R. Underhill 3.

Handicap Handicap—Hayes 1, D. Warr 2, R. Kilpatrick 3, J. Thompson 3.

Single Ladies' Race—Miss Clark 1, Miss Quick 2, Miss Preece 3.

Married Ladies' Race—Mrs. Duncan 1, Mrs. Rogers 2, Mrs. Spark 3.

Single Men's Race—S. Underhill 1, E. Stephens 2, H. Underhill 3.

Ladies' Ball Driving—Mrs. Holliday 1, Mrs. Aitken 2, Mrs. Meehan 3.

Egg and Spoon Race—Miss Coleman 1, Miss Holliday 2, Mrs. Spark 3.

Sack Race—R. Underhill 1, H. York 2, S. Underhill 3.

Ladies' Sack Race—Miss Blanke 1, Mrs. Aitken 2, Miss Holliday 3.

Pillow Fight (Heavyweights)—J. Dunn 1, H. Underhill 2.

Pillow Fight (Heavyweights)—C. Townsend 1, C. Rogers 2.

Consolation prize won by S. Noad.

To Mr. H. H. Smith, Mr. Krohn presented an enlarged photograph of the committee of the employees' benefit society, of which Mr. Smith was the respondent. Mr. Krohn eulogised Mr. Smith's fine efforts in this work, and also as a member of the social committee.

Mr. Smith, in responding, said that what he had done had been a pleasure.

Salvation Army services are advertised elsewhere in the church column. On Thursday Adjutant McKenzie will appear in Chinese national costume.

Miss E. Rasmussen, of High street, Thornbury, who was thrown from a horse while on holiday at Kyabram on January 29, is still an inmate of the Echuca Hospital. Her injuries are not serious as at first thought, but it was found that the muscles of the neck and her ankle badly sprained. She is progressing favorably, but it will be some time before she will be able to attend to her business.

Mr. Allan L. Hughes, M.A., LL.M., barrister and solicitor, son of Mr. J. O. Hughes, Thornbury, may be considered a "chip of the old block." He has been a diligent worker in connection with the Thornbury Methodist Church, and has been a debating enthusiast. Private advice is given by Mr. Hughes at his office in Elizabeth St., Melbourne, on Tuesday evenings, 7.30 to 8.30, and by appointment, or at his address, Studley Park, St. Northcote: phone Xcote 1252.

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PRESTON COURT

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28,
Before Messrs. J. W. Adams and J. T. Killion, J.P.

Debt.

J. Payne, for whom Mr. Wilkinson (Home and Wilkinson) appeared, obtained an order against W. Joyce for £11 and £1/6/- costs.

The McMahons, hoover road, Preston, sued L. P. Lachmund for £9 for half cost of dividing fence. Mr. Norris appeared for complainant, who obtained an order for the amount, with £2/7/6 costs.

Dove Across Footpath.

A. Jones, Rennie street, Thornbury, was charged that on February 11 he drove a motor truck across the footpath in Austral Avenue, contrary to the by-law.

Defendant was fined £1, with 2/6 costs.

L. A. Puttifoot, Erin street, Preston, who drove a horse and vehicle across the footpath in Austral Avenue, contrary to by-law, was fined £1, with 2/6 costs.

R. A. Smith was charged that on January 25 he rode a bicycle on the footpath in Bell street, Preston, contrary to council by-law.

Inspector J. Cain prosecuted.

James Taylor said he chased defendant and caught him when riding a bicycle on the footpath.

Defendant was fined 10/-, and 2/6 costs.

Building By-law Contravened.

A. H. Taylor, Penrose street, Thornbury, was charged that on February 14 he contravened by-law 66 and 66(1)(a) of the Building By-laws, in that he erected a wooden fowl house within 4 feet of the boundary of the allotment.

Defendant was fined £2, with £2/4/6 costs.

NEW NATIONAL PARK

10,000 ACRES ON KINGLAKE PLATEAU.

POSSESSES WONDERFUL SCENERY.

The Lands Department has decided to reserve 10,000 acres on a plateau near Kinglake, on the south side of the Dividing Range as a national park. The announcement was made by the Minister for Lands (Mr. Dowsward).

The plateau, which embraces magnificent scenic country, with luxuriant fern gullies and fine views, is less than two hours' motor journey from Melbourne. Mr. Dowsward has instructed his surveyor to mark out the park in the interests of the people.

The Minister explained that the Town Planning Commission, through Mr. Thorn, had applied to have this area reserved for a park.

Although it is useless for sentimental reasons to destroy beautiful and rugged and broken features furnished by the hand of scenic beauty, which he thought should be preserved for the enjoyment of the people. He was certain that the people would take full advantage of the opportunity which this park would afford them for enjoying pleasant outings.

In the depth of the gullies there was a profusion of ferns and other beautiful plant life. From the tops of the various spurs beautiful vistas of mountain and valley could be seen. The panoramas included views of Melbourne and suburbs, and even of the bay.

The Kinglake country is too little known to tourists, though it has long been a happy hunting ground for bushwalking enthusiasts. Lately, too, motorists have been favoring the road around Hurstbridge, through Queenstown, to Kinglake.

Animal life is fairly plentiful in the district, and he knew when he was a boy he often saw the native bear, "possums, bandicoots, echidnas, and other similar species are among the wild animals. The National Park will be sanctuary for native fauna.

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THE LOVES OF THE REIDS.

WIFE SECURES MAINTENANCE ORDER.

HUSBAND'S ADMISSION—"DRUNKEN SODDEN WASTER."

At Northcote court on Tuesday Olive Reid, Candy street, Westgarth, sued her husband, Charles Stewart Reid, Harper street, Northcote, for maintenance for herself and three children.

Olive Reid, Candy street, Westgarth, said she was married in 1917. There were three children, the youngest now being four years old. She had only been married 15 months when her husband became addicted to drink.

Husband Addicted to Drink.

Whilst she was in hospital with her second baby he came to her the worse for drink. For some six months out of eight years he had given the drink up. Whilst drunk her husband would come home and say: "Well, you black ——, what are you looking at?" He would abuse her, and accuse her of infidelity. She had left him four times, and each time he had asked her to come back. Last time she went back to him he would promise to give up drink, and also refrain from abusing her. Usually the next day after this promise he would come home drunk and accuse her of infidelity with a next door neighbor. He had always been a good workman, and when she left him he was getting between £6 and £6/10/- a week. Now four years in her husband would be entitled to the legacy of £100 from New Zealand, £50 of which he had admitted having squandered in drink.

A Razor Incident.

When she left him about two months old she went to her sister's place, and her husband followed with a razor. Witness' mother took the razor from him and got him home. She had not been cohabiting with him because he had a complaint. On New Year's Eve last he was very drunk and fell over the table. She gave a party up till February 12 he had continued to abuse her. One day he was abusing her and then ran up the street, saying he had on the door. He turned and swore she had thrown a knife at him.

Gas Death Easier Than Railway Line.

On February 12, according to Reid, her husband said he was going to end everything and turned on his head and put his head in the oven. "That's easier than getting on the railway line."

Husband's Playful Antics.

He then got a tie and tried to strangle her with it. She tricked him and then threw the sounds of footsteps outside. He let her go and fell on the floor, saying: "Shoot me, then. She hit me with a bottle." Witness then left her husband for good.

Further Allegations.

Cross-examined—She was frightened and terrified of her husband. When she left the house her husband generally did not take all the food away. On the Friday after Reid came to manage the park in the interests of the people. The Minister explained that the Town Planning Commission, through Mr. Thorn, had applied to have this area reserved for a park.

Although it is useless for sentimental reasons to destroy beautiful and rugged and broken features furnished by the hand of scenic beauty, which he thought should be preserved for the enjoyment of the people. He was certain that the people would take full advantage of the opportunity which this park would afford them for enjoying pleasant outings.

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FOOTBALL

THE NORTHCOTE CLUB

ALL OFFICES ARE CONTESTED BUT ONE.

ANNUAL MEETING NEXT TUESDAY.

The annual meeting of the Northcote Football Club will be held on Tuesday next (March 1) at the Northcote Town Hall (small hall).

The annual report and balance-sheet will be presented, and officers for the season 1927 will be elected.

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE-BEARERS.

The nominations for office-bearers, which closed on Tuesday, are as follow:—

President—W. S. Stott (unopposed).

Vice-presidents (six to be elected)—H. F. Ackeray, A. H. Oldis, S. Avison, J. Cain, W. Cockram, M. C. Davies, W. S. Neelands, J. Power, C. Stewart, A. Saunders.

Committee (seven to be elected)—R. Cox, H. Dickinson, J. Ferguson, F. S. Kryzger, W. G. Lambert, E. McGlashan, E. See, R. Rosanove, A. E. Rasmussen, P. W. Tomkins and T. Werrey.

Secretary (one)—Maurie Sheehy, L. Walsh.

Assistant Secretary (one)—G. Dean, W. Reid.

Treasurer (one)—C. E. George, H. Morris.

TWO PARTIES.

From this it will be noticed that Mr. W. S. Stott, the retiring coach, is the only one whose election is unopposed. For every other office ballots will have to be taken.

The air is electric, and as the club is divided into two parties, as each working for the return of their own candidates, it is expected that there will be a big vote.

The actual causes of grievances (if any have been given) are on the q round, but it is evident that the players, who comprise one of the largest clubs in the district, are not in favor of the present holder of the position, to say nothing of the fact that a popular and consistent player for years.

For the position of hon. treasurer Mr. C. George is to be nominated by the present hon. treasurer. As one who has been closely associated in the financial matters of the club, and of the finance committee during the last few years), I claim to know Mr. Morris' worth to the position he holds. In addition, he has always been to the front in raising such extra duties as ticket collector at the gates of the football ground on match days. The other nominee is Mr. Hayes, who was paid into the funds of the football club in connection with the meeting of Mr. Sheehy and Mr. Morris have always had the highest percentages, and in the past have been among the contestants for the raising of money on one hour or one day.

I ask the opposition the question, "What is the reason of the sudden interest in the management?" For some years, I understand, Messrs. Morris and Sheehy have lived in the district, yet have never offered their services in any capacity to the local club, and so far as my knowledge goes, have not even assisted by the purchase of a membership ticket.

For the committee Dr. Rosanove, who for the last three years has diligently carried out his duties. In addition, he has given yeoman service to the players as one of the club's honorary medical officers. I am at a loss to understand why he should be forgotten in the selection for the committee.

For the position of vice-presidents, Messrs. Avison, Saunders, Stewart and Davies are again endorsed. Cr. J. Cain, M.L.A., and I are to give way to Messrs. Neelands and Power.

The local residents have never given the support the local club deserved. Pitzroy and Collingwood bring strong counter attractions, and when it was found difficult to get men who were prepared to give time and money to place the club on a sound footing (after one of our secretarys had defalcated with a large sum of money), Cr. Cain was one who stepped in and did splendid service, and is still doing it in many ways in the interests of the Northcote Football Club. Perhaps it is not generally understood that the whole of the money raised by the club is used almost exclusively in the payments to players, trainers and the purchase of boots and equipment for the players, the exception being an honorarium to the hon. secretary of £25, and £12/10/- to the hon. treasurer. What could any committee, even if elected at the request of some of the players, do more than to give all the money raised to them and their attendants?

I leave my election for the position of vice-president to the players and members, and if my services for some years are not sufficient for a further term, I will gladly give way to some one who will not be more keenly interested in the Northcote Football Club than myself. I ask members before voting to look into the credentials and claims of the candidates offering.

—Yours, etc.,

A. H. OLDIS.

FOOTBALL REFORM.

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—In your issue last week "Member for Ten Years of the Local Club" asks why the names of certain players have been omit

CAKES. CAKES. CAKES. CAKES.
THE BEST MIXTURE.
Order Now and Don't Be Disappointed from
PASCOE'S, 447 High Street, Northcote.
(Three doors down from Beaver's Road).
CAKES AND SHORTBREADS A SPECIALTY.

The Noted Home
FOR
MILLINERY
We have a Large and Varied Selection to Choose from.
Special Attention given to Matrons
Our Corset Department Caters for all Figure Types.
Vests, Hosiery, and Gloves a Specialty.
MISS WINTER, 679 HIGH STREET, THORNBURY
(Opposite Tram Sheds)
Phone Northcote 1260

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PAINTS OIL LEAD, PAPERS
CALL AT
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HOUSE DECORATORS AND RENOVATORS,
Recently Opened at the Newly Enlarged Premises,
614 HIGH ST., CROXTON (Opp. Woolton Avenue).
TO PROPERTY OWNERS.
Now is the time for that Painting and Renovations to your home. Call and inspect our large stock of Paints and Wallpapers at Reasonable Rates. Registered Painters. We will cheerfully estimate the quantities you need, and give any advice or help required.

NOTE A FEW OF OUR PRICES.
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BOWLING

THE THORNBURY CLUB.

Thornbury did a little better last week, when the two C pennant teams engaged visiting clubs on the Thornbury greens, the former defeating Northcote by 4 points, and the latter overwhelming Fawkner by 43 points. The only one to make any sort of a score was Cr. Allen, who, in a total of 26, played 13 games, was 11, lost 2, scored 250 points as against 209. And he thinks nothing of the season well, but latterly for some unaccountable reason there are few to be found of a rose right out of form.

Thornbury's match was at Port Melbourne against the local 16 and the only Thornbury rink to bring home the bacon was that skipped by Mr. Forth's. His rink managed after a hard fight to win by 2 points, the scores being Paxman 27 to 22. Sharp was down to the nine of 26 to 3 against Campbell, Whalley 21 to 17 to Vagg's 24, and Pratchan's board 21 to 19 to some advantage in the last stages, but they stuck to the pin, and the final score was 27 to 22. Lind on notice board.

THORNBURY v. KANGAROOS.

Seven rinks of the Kangaroo Bowling Club paid a visit to the Thornbury Bowling Club on 16th inst., when both visitors and local bowlers had a most enjoyable time. The members of the visiting club are drawn from almost every metropolitan club, consequently they are able to put 12 strong rinks on the green. Hence it is on very many occasions that they are defeated. This happened to be one of them, Thornbury winning rather easily. The ease with which, also, for the first time the home team was able to defeat the visitors had its strength. At the conclusion of the game Vice-president Reg. Goldsmith, of the Kangaroo Club, acted as spokesman for his brother 'Roos, and did so in a very fine and characteristic manner. He thanked the president and members of the Thornbury Club for the manner in which they had been received and treated. The hospitality of the club was equal to if not better than any of the clubs that they had had the pleasure of playing against. He also stated that they had not played on a better green this season. This speech was followed by the usual musical items and choruses that the 'Roos are noted for. The president of the home club (Mr. J. S. Whalley) quite eclipsed all his predecessors efforts in his response on behalf of Thornbury, expressing the sincere regret at every member of the Thornbury Club at the absence of the "boss" (vice Mair), who is in Tasmania on holidays. He also reminded all present that Thornbury was already in debt to the Kangaroo members during the next few years of the rink, and hoped they gave several splendid entertainments to assist the club financially. In conclusion he trusted that when Mr. Mair was making up his fixtures for the 1927-28 season he would endeavor to have the return two games instead of one. The Kangaroo Rink Leader Hall, pneumatism

PUBLIC NOTICE.

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ESTABLISHED 1852

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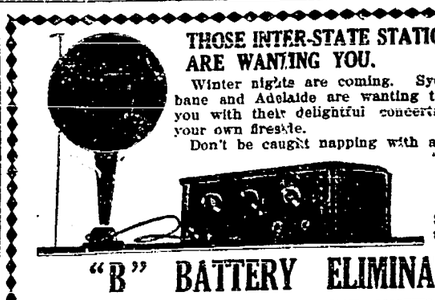

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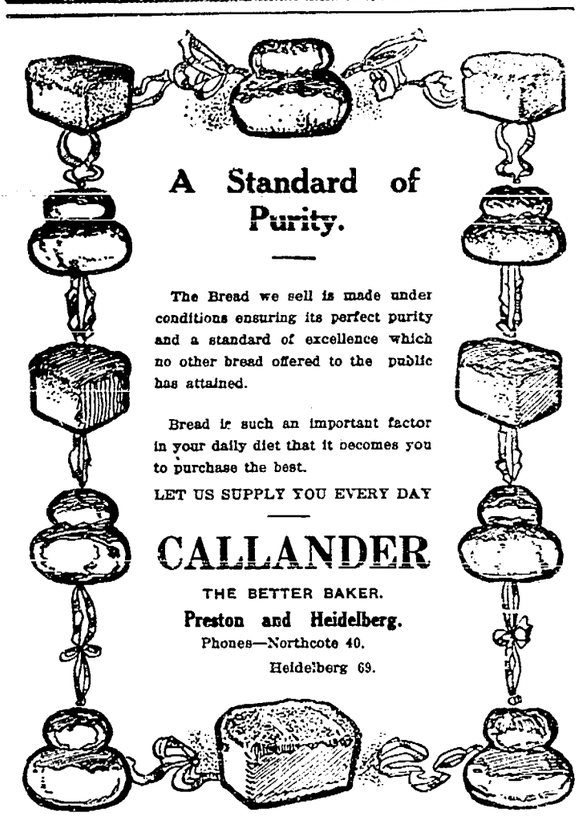

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ALL WITH DETACHED COLLARS.

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WITH the approach of the New Year you would do well to consider solving your gift problems at Ladner's. The most suitable gifts for the New Year are here—and what lady would not appreciate a Wristlet Watch, a Diamond Ring or other of the wonderful presents from which you may choose. And each may be had for sums that will amaze you—for the prices will suit all.

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ROBERT ALFORD, Proprietor

FOR THE LADIES

LADY'S DRESS NO. 2890.

Simplicity is the keynote of the new modes now coming forward for autumn wear, mostly one-piece or two-piece models, simple in construction, yet smart in appearance; styles to charm and please even the most fastidious. Straight slim lines seem likely to be the most favored, with softening little touches of femininity, introduced in the shape of inserted and flowing panels, and pleatings of every description. The design we are showing here is one typically suited for autumn wear, and would make up exquisitely in any of the new light weight woollen materials, also in flannels, velvets and in the heavier silken fabrics. The frock is in one-piece, the skirt part being arranged in pleats at each side and joined to the long body at the hip line. The dress is worn closed to the neck, and

is furnished with a turn-down collar. A belt is worn at low-waist, and a trimming strap of the contrast material makes a dainty finish at centre front. A monogram may be worked at the left side if desired. The dress has long sleeves, gathered at the wrists into narrow cuffs. The small sketch marked No. 2 shows an alternative way of making up the dress. The skirt part is simply gathered or arranged in rows of shirrings, and stitched to lower edge of body part. The front is finished with a bow and long ends of ribbon on the material. The pattern is No. 2890, cut for medium size fittings, price 8d, and is stocked by the agents shown on list elsewhere in the paper.

BEETROOT HOT.

Many people never serve beetroots except in the orthodox way—cold, with a dressing of vinegar, or as a salad; but there are ways in which they are equally enjoyable hot.

Boiled and Served With Sauce.—Choose some young beetroots, cut off the tops and wash them carefully in cold water. On no account must the skin be broken, or the juice will run out and the color of the vegetable be spoiled. Put them into boiling salted water and boil steadily for one hour and a half to two hours, or until they feel tender when pressed with the finger—never prick them with a fork. Peel them quickly, cut into rather thick slices, and lay them in a vegetable dish. Pour over them some sauce such as caper, white, parsley, etc., to which a little lemonjuice or vinegar has been added to give piquancy. Instead of sauce, some finely-chopped onion may be cooked in a little butter, a few drops of Tarragon vinegar and a little chopped parsley added, and all be poured over the vegetable.

Fritters.—Stamp out some thin, even-sized rounds from a cooked beetroot, and season them with a little vinegar, salt, and pepper. Put a very little thick onion sauce between two slices, press lightly together and dip into frying butter. Fry carefully in deep fat.

WARM AND COSY HOUSES.

If you have grey walls see that your hangings are of some warm color during the winter months, and always remember when you are worrying about the expense that you can have your summer hangings dyed or, better still, dye them at home. Orange or red is warm already, of course, but both these colors dye beautiful shades of brown. A blue—always a cold color—will make good purple generally, or even a plum color, and both plum and purple are warmer than blue.

Lamp shades to give a warm and pretty glow should always have a warm tone. Orange, rose, deep yellow and just the plain parchment colored tones are practically the only possible ones, and certainly the most artistic. Blue, even when lined with white, gives a cold light, and the same rule applies to green. Orange and red colored bulbs are now procurable, but these, while giving a warmer light than the ordinary ones, are unsuitable for reading.

Vary your decorations in the winter, too. Get some color on to your walls if they are plain ones. A bright piece of tapestry, a picture with plenty of color in it will give your walls a warmer look, and if you can vary your carpets or rugs, do so.

Bright foliage and warm colored flowers should be chosen too, and a bowl of fruit with plenty of oranges and any other colorful fruit will add another note of warmth.

If you have leather chairs, treat them to velvet cushions for the winter months. Leather is cold to the touch and has a slippery surface, too reminiscent of skating to be desired when one is hoping for a cosy half hour in a comfortable armchair.

AN INGENIOUS DEVICE.

With every car sold, a Paris automobile dealer furnishes a pot of special paint and a sprayer, about the size of a fountain pen, so that scratches and mars can be touched up at once, to keep the body looking new. Pressure for applying the paint is obtained by blowing through a tube connected with the sprayer. While the preparation is specially adapted to covering metals, it also may be used on fabrics and leather.

RUNNING AN OCEAN LINER.

The running of a passenger liner is a complete business, as highly organised as the most efficient business office on land, and many a company director could learn from the captains—who are in reality the managing directors of the vessels—principles of organisation and management which would increase his profits.

Relentless necessity has taught sea captains that they must above all things be practical, also that red tape and over-organisation are the bane of smooth and efficient working.

The captain of a liner then, as the managing director of his vessel, so organises his business that every possible duty to be performed is assigned to a competent person whose responsibilities are clearly defined. Thus the entire propelling of the ship is in the hands of the chief engineer. Although virtually the head of the ship, the captain does not interfere with his engineer's job. To do so would be to engender friction and also divide responsibility—a state of affairs prejudicial to the safe running of the vessel.

Now again, the entire care of the passengers—except for one thing—is in the hands of a chief steward. He it is who is responsible for the comfort of the passengers. The necessity for having an official for this especial duty is obvious. Were all complaints and arrangements in the hands of the captain, he would not be able to devote the requisite time to his own job—which is the manager of the ship.

We have a further official—the first officer, who is in charge of the ship as a ship, not as a power-plant or hotel. He it is who manages the deck crews, and allots to them their various duties.

Now except for one thing the chief steward is responsible for the care of the passengers, but his duties are so numerous and heavy that he has not sufficient time to devote to the material needs of his customers. Therefore he has to assist him the chief purser. This official arranges the more spectacular services on a liner—the orchestra, the bar, the arrangement of concerts and dances, the care of passengers' valuables and the answering of anxious questions which every passenger asks from time to time. He does not interfere with the chief steward, who still cares for the passengers' sleeping, eating and public rooms.

Now the captain can supervise the whole working of his ship and still complete his own duties. If he wishes to know how the passengers are faring, he can consult his chief steward and purser and advise if necessary. If he wishes to know how the ship is faring mechanically, he consults the chief engineer and so on.

But to further safeguard the interests of the ship and the passengers, the captain has a man under him known as the chief officer, who is, in fact, his deputy. This official represents the captain in everything that is not of an entirely exceptional nature, and his job is to lighten the physical tasks of the captain by dealing with routine problems. Should anything untoward happen, however, he will not take the responsibility of giving advice, but will consult his captain.

The running of a liner entails a wonderful organisation, and it is here that business men can take a hint. In the ship's organisation the captain is free to study the operations and results, to aid and advise his executives when difficulties arise, and to be free and clear to deal with all emergencies and new problems as they arise.

The system now in vogue on liners has not been introduced without careful consideration and forethought and is based on years of experience in running ocean going liners. Truly, the working of a big liner is a great example of organised efficiency, clear of useless formalism and yet thorough in its working.

CURIOUS CLOCKS.

The first pendulum clock ever made in England was constructed by a Dutchman named Fromantel in 1622. The clock given by King Henry VIII. to Anne Boleyn on her wedding day is only four inches deep and but 10 inches high—a real pigmy clock. There are also still some specimens of the old "Act of Parliament" clocks existing. These were so called because Pitt, when Prime Minister, placed a tax on watches, and hence taverns and other places where people gathered had large clocks made for the benefit of people who could not afford watches. At Buckingham Palace there is a wonderful clock made by Lapine. This clock takes the form of a negress' head, and the hour numerals are shown in one of her eyes, whilst in the other are the minute divisions. A larger clock which is famous is the Abbey clock at Glastonbury, which ran for 500 years. The three largest clocks in England to-day are Big Ben at Westminster, the great clock in the Crystal Palace, and the clock on the Royal Liver Building at Liverpool, which is even larger than London's Big Ben.

STRAIGHT-FACE WHISTLING.

Addison, the English writer, was present at Bath, England, in 1708, when a "whistling match" took place. He says that the prize was one guinea, which was to be given to the best whistler—that is, the boy who could whistle the most clearly and go through his tune without laughing, was to be regarded as the champion of the town, and the prize was to be awarded to him as such. As soon as the first whistler began, a "Merry Andrew," or clown, dressed in fancy costume, commenced to make faces and cut capers directly in front of the whistler. The great crowd was made to laugh because of the clown's antics, ugly faces and strange postures, and it was extremely difficult for anyone to contain himself. The first two whistlers failed outright and joined in the merriment. The third boy kept a straight face and whistled through two tunes with so settled a countenance that he bore away the prize, to the great admiration of the spectators. "Straight-face whistling" is a source of great amusement to boys. Not one boy in fifty can whistle a tune clear through if his companions try to make him laugh.

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CALENDARS FOR 1928

We take this opportunity of notifying the many business people and traders of Northcote and Preston that our samples of wall calendars for 1928 are now complete. Our representative will take an early opportunity of showing these to all traders. The pictures are a three color process and all the work in connection with these is done at the "Leader" office. Before placing orders elsewhere business men are respectfully requested to view our wide range. A phone call will bring our representative.

'Phone Northcote 947.

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