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IN THE FLASHLIGHT

BY
 BERNARD RCWTHORNE.
 Author of "The Jewels of Sin," "The Shadow of the Yamen," etc., etc.
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CHAPTER XXIII.
 Having reached the Court once more Margaret encircled the doctor just as he was ascending into the hall, and then she had given him news of the other patient awaiting him, asked about Donald.
 "He came of lucky," said the doctor. "Left leg fractured, and a nasty cut in the head, but nothing to worry about, if he can keep a quiet mind. The trouble is that he is so concerned about his brother that I'm afraid he won't be able to do so. I gather that he had a very considerable shock when landing from the African port this afternoon, he found that Noel was charged with the murder of the woman whom he is supposed to have married. He—"
 "But Noel never married the poor woman. He never even saw her until the other day."
 "That is his story, of course, but many people will be disinclined to credit it."
 "They will have to, I think," said Margaret excitedly.
 "You know something, Miss Melford?" asked the doctor quickly.
 "Yes—enough to convince any jury. I have found the letter that Noel said the woman wrote to him, and I have seen her father. He—"
 "Her father?"
 "Yes. He is at the Mayhew Arms, having read in the newspapers of the murder of his daughter, and I tried here. He has seen the letter, and he will testify that it is his daughter's handwriting."
 "That is great news," cried the doctor. "And for Noel's sake I am delighted."
 "There is another thing—rather mysterious as yet—but which I gather is itself sufficient to save Noel further trouble. But I think that must not be mentioned, as I do not know what it is, yet, and it is better, whatever it is, that it should come as a surprise."
 "I understand," said the doctor.
 "So there is no need for Donald to worry about Noel. I think if I were to see him—"
 "Do! It will set his mind at rest, though at first it may prove a little exciting. You won't stay long?"
 "Five minutes—ten at the most."
 "That will be long enough. I shall trust you not to make it longer. I must hurry away now to that other poor fellow, though from what you tell me, I'm afraid it won't be very much use. Good-night, Miss Melford."
 "Good-night, doctor."
 Accompanied by the housekeeper, the girl went upstairs to Donald Mayhew's room. She found him looking very white and shaken, the bandage round his head making him look even worse than he was, but his eyes lit up with pleasure as he saw her.
 "You are not to talk," she said.
 "And I am not to talk to you, too. But I have news so good that the doctor thought it would do you no harm to hear it."
 "About Noel," he asked quickly.
 "Yes."
 And forthwith she launched into a brief account of her finding of the note, of her visit to Freedman, and of the mysterious key given to her by the man who had been knocked down by the car.
 "I don't know what is the secret this key will unlock; but the owner of it is convinced that what this key holds secure will exonerate Noel. He spoke of a fortune that it had meant for him, but just how that fortune was to come to him I don't know."
 "Sounds as if there was someone behind the business who was willing to pay him handsomely to keep that secret."
 "Yes; I thought of that. But you mustn't talk. It is enough to know that within a day or two at most Noel will be back here with this stigma completely removed."
 "I shall be jolly glad to see him," said the young man with conviction.
 "Though, of course, his return will knock all my poor chances on the head."
 Margaret's face flushed rosily. She understood his reference, and she did not deny the implication. "You must not talk," she said. "And you must not worry. I am going now."
 "Home?"
 "No. I am going to Mr. Strickland, your family solicitor. I was on my way there when I found you by the wayside."
 "Rather an unusual hour for a professional call, isn't it, Margaret?"
 "Yes; but the circumstances are unusual."
 "True! And Noel's a lucky fellow; but after all he's gone through he deserves his luck, all of it—even you, Margaret."
 Margaret flushed again. At that moment she recalled Noel's face when she had struck him with her whip, and she grew hot with shame. Then, telling herself that now she was atoning, she rose and turned to the door.
 "Good-night, Don."
 "Good-night, Margaret. And luck be with you."
 Four minutes later she was in her car and gliding down the road, and in a very short time she had reached the scene of the accident, where she drew up to find the village constable and the footman ready to direct her to the doctor. She did not look at the still figure lying on the grass, where it had been removed from the further side of the hedge. She knew instinctively that the man was dead, and the doctor's first words were almost unnecessary.
 "As I expected, Miss Melford, I was of no use. The man died the moment we started to move him. We've just been going through his pockets. There's not much there, only an old

letter or two, from which it appears that he is some sort of a naturalist, and the constable has an idea that he has been staying at one of the farms hereabouts. When the news is known, no doubt the police will soon find out all about him."
 A sudden thought came to Margaret. "Doctor," she said in a low voice, "do you think the news ought to get about yet?"
 The doctor stared at her in some surprise. "I'm afraid I don't understand what you're driving at, Miss Margaret."
 "No, of course not. I was forgetting that I had not told you all that happened. But you remember what I told you about another thing that would help Noel—"
 "Of course! Something rather mysterious," you said."
 "Yes; and it has to do with that poor man there."
 As succinctly as she could she gave him an account of the mysterious key, and the doctor listened in growing wonder until she had finished, then he offered comment.
 "By Jove, Miss Margaret, I believe you're right. The news of this man's death must not get about yet, nor even his name be mentioned, until that key has unlocked his secret. I'll talk to the constable—"
 "And to the footman, please. He was there when the man gave me the key. He heard him tell me that a man's life hung on it. It is just the kind of thing to furnish exciting gossip for the moment of an hour."
 "And for the more excited places," said the doctor. "But I will talk to Taylor. I happen to be a J.P., and I think I can impress upon both the constable and him the need for silence until the man is removed. I'm glad you thought of it, otherwise the real criminal, whoever he is, might have heard, and, forewarned, have made good his escape."
 "Yes. That is what I was thinking. But I must push on now. Good night. Once more she resumed her way, and in a little over 20 minutes drew up at the private house of the Mayhew's family lawyer. The hour was late for a country town, and a surprised man answered her ring, while a more surprised lawyer heard the announcement of her name, and hurried to meet her.
 "My dear Miss Melford," he said, "this is an unexpected pleasure—"
 "You mean that it's a shockingly late hour for me to call, don't you, Mr. Strickland?" she said, with a smiling glance towards the clock.
 The elderly lawyer permitted himself to smile. "Well," he said, "you couldn't expect me to put it so crudely, though I will own it is rather late; from which I conjecture that something very important has brought you to see me."
 "Yes," she began. "It's about Noel—about Mr. Mayhew."
 "Please be seated, Miss Melford," broke in the lawyer. "That chair there is one that I can recommend, and we shall lose nothing by talking over your business in comfort."
 Margaret took the chair indicated, a cosy one near the fire, and the lawyer watched her whilst she unbuttoned her heavy coat, then he spoke.
 "You have come about Mr. Noel Mayhew?"
 "Yes," she said, and as she answered, held out to him the note which the Creole woman had sent to Noel Mayhew. "Read that, Mr. Strickland."
 The lawyer took the note, put on his spectacles, and with an air of deliberation began to read; but when he looked up his staid countenance betrayed his excitement.
 "The note that poor woman sent! Where did you get it, Miss Melford?"
 "I found it at the entrance to the wood. It had been trodden into the earth."
 The lawyer nodded. "If we can get hold of a sample of that woman's writing—"
 "We can do better," interrupted Margaret. "The woman's father, Mr. Otto Freedman, is at the Mayhew Arms. I have shown him that note, and he recognises his daughter's handwriting."
 "Good!" cried Mr. Strickland. "The clouds are breaking for Mr. Noel. This note and Freedman's testimony will be invaluable."
 "But that is not all," said Margaret.
 "Indeed! You have something else up your sleeve, Miss Melford."
 "No," she answered with a smile. "In my glove."
 She slid the glove off as she spoke, and handed the key to the lawyer.
 Mr. Strickland considered it a moment, then he looked up. "That's a safe-key! My dear young lady, this does not tell me very much. Perhaps you will explain the meaning of it?"
 "I'm afraid I can't," she said, "but I can tell you how it came into my hands."
 For the third time that evening she told the story of what had followed Donald Mayhew's accident, and the lawyer listened, with growing wonder showing in his grave countenance, and when she ended he looked at the key in his hand.
 "There is more in this than meets the eye," he commented thoughtfully.
 "Yes."
 "This key arouses in me a stronger curiosity than I have ever experienced in my professional life."
 "I am hungry to know what is behind it myself," said Margaret.
 The lawyer nodded. "That is more than understandable. I am not in the habit of attending the cinema halls, but from what I know of them this

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Anderson's COMPLETE HOME FURNISHERS. SPECIALISTS IN PIANOS AND ORGANS.

TO THOSE ABOUT TO BUILD A HOME. YOU WILL BE WISE TO ASK THESE QUESTIONS...

Stability Construction Co. BEST STRENGTH PRESTON RESERVOIR.

FOR PAINTS, OIL, LEAD, PAPERS CALL AT McEntee & Poole's

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Walter A. Warne

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Funerals conducted at lowest possible rates.

Ern. Jensen, Undertaker. 259 High Street, Preston.

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Men Who Know. The extra satisfaction of a Tailor-Made Suit...

C. S. Low. Ladies and Gents Tailor. 376 High Street, Northcote.

Some Special Lines. Boys' Blue Hats, Boys' Blue Caps, etc.

Bargains at Allchins. Remnants, oddments and utility lengths at less than factory costs.

All-wool Blankets, Standard Size and Weight. Single, Three-quarter and Double.

DO YOU TAKE AN INTEREST IN YOUR GARDEN?

Grow Good Bulbs. We have an extra fine variety of flowering bulbs...

Special April Offerings. Anemone, mixed, 1/6 doz. Daffodils, mixed, 2/6 doz.

Comments by Business People. The rapid growth of the booster bargain column in the "Leader" has been noted...

Church Notices. All Saints Church, Northcote. Holy Trinity, Thornbury.

Overcoats! Overcoats! Procure your overcoat for the winter now from Bert Saunders.

The Hill Nurseries. 443 Bourke Street, Melbourne.

Drapery and Mercery. 111 Smith Street (at Johnston St. Tram Stop).

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THE BOOSTER BARGAIN COLUMNS

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE IN THE "LEADER". COMMENTS BY SOME LEADING BUSINESS MEN.

By Mrs. Secall, who showed herself a very capable member of the club...

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PRESTON ASSAULT

BEER BOTTLE USED. SEVERE PENALTIES. Alex. McArthur was charged with having driven a milk cart on the footpath...

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NORTHCOTE COURT

TUESDAY, MAY 2. Before Mr. P. J. Conlon, P.M. and Mr. J. J. Conlon, J.P. Alex. McArthur was charged with having driven a milk cart on the footpath...

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MOTOR TRAFFIC

Several Cases at Northcote Court. At Northcote court on Tuesday...

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NOTHING ADDS SO MUCH TO HOME ENJOYMENT AS A PLAYER

YOU can have one out of income! From 12/6 Weekly AND A SMALL DEPOSIT

One of our World-Famous Players by ASTOR-MODELLO OR LOHENGRIIN WILL BE PLACED IN YOUR HOME.

These players are fitted with the latest improvements and refinements. High and best a demonstration soon at any of our Showrooms.

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HEROLAX THE PRESCRIPTION OF AN EMINENT PHYSICIAN... DANGEROUS DAYS ARE COMING

HEROLAX Good Health 3/6 per bottle... HEROLAX Buy it direct from your local chemist or direct from G. T. HOWARD, Temple Court, Collins St., Melbourne.

F. T. BULLOCK PTY. LTD. TRAM TERMINUS THORNBURY FRESH SEASONABLE GOODS.

- PEARL BARLEY 2 1/2 lb. I.K.L. B. CAS. JAM 1/2... LOOSE ROLLED OATS 1/2 lb. WHITE COCOA 6d... FINEST JUBILEE MIXTURES, 1/6 lb.

WHILE THEY LAST. These prices, and the quality of the goods, will convince Residents of North and Surrounding Districts that BULLOCK'S STORES are for thrifty housewives.

HEALTH! HEALTH! IS YOUR HEALTHY CLAIM IT? Nature intends you to be healthy, strong and vigorous...

THE BUREAU OF HEALTH 450 LITTLE COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE. REAL HEALTH-GIVING BREAD.

NOTICE J. W. BLITZ SURGEON DENTIST (Late City). Only Address—214 HIGH ST., NORTHCOLE.

ARTISTIC NEW YEAR CALENDARS. With the approach of Christmas comes the holiday spirit...

Northcote Leader Specialty Printers. With the approach of Christmas comes the holiday spirit...

STOTT SON & WATSON NORTHCOLE'S OLDEST ESTABLISHED AUCTIONEERS, ESTATE AGENTS AND INSURANCE AGENTS.

FRANCIS BATES AUCTIONEER AND ESTATE AGENT. 274 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOLE.

REMOVAL OF BUILDING. TENDERS PRINTING MUNICIPAL ROLLS.

CITY OF NORTHCOLE. NOTICE is hereby given that the Council has made by-laws...

OPENINGS IN FOOTPATHS AND ROADWAYS. NOTICE is hereby given that until further notice...

CITY OF NORTHCOLE. NOTICE is hereby given that until further notice...

HEALTH! HEALTH! IS YOUR HEALTHY CLAIM IT? Nature intends you to be healthy, strong and vigorous...

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NORTHCOLE THEATRE PROGRAMME This Friday and Saturday May 6th and 7th Patsy Ruth Miller "Sweet Rose O'Grady"

"So's Your Old Man" (W. C. Fields) MONDAY, TUESDAY, WED. TOMORROW, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1927.

"The Temptress" (Antonio Moreno) "Stepping Out" (Ford Sterling) Thursday, Friday, Saturday May 12, 13 and 14

"The Ba" A Comedy Mystery Drama by Mary Roberts Rinehart "Everybody's Acting" (Betty Bronson)

"ROBBIE" KEERS The Ward of the Youthful Late CONRAD, 1271, MAY 1927, are invited for the PRINTING OF MUNICIPAL ROLLS...

CITY OF NORTHCOLE. NOTICE is hereby given that the Council has made by-laws...

OPENING OF FEDERAL CAPITAL. NOTICE is hereby given that the Council has made by-laws...

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CANBERRA OPENING BROADCASTING THE CEREMONY. The Public Invited.

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1927. The following new buildings were erected in Northcote during March...

BROADCASTING IN PRESTON. FEDERAL CAPITAL CEREMONY. The Preston Council is showing commendable enterprise in arranging for the broadcasting of the ceremony...

PERSONAL. Mr. H. P. Tulloh, of Thornbury, is spending a holiday at Upyer.

Mr. W. J. Johnston, of the firm of Johnston and McMillan, has been appointed to the position of Constable at Northcote.

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PRESTON COURT THURSDAY, MAY 5. Honors Messrs. C. Brinkell, J. T. Zilman and P. J. McNeil, J.P.

BOOSTER BARGAINS AT NORTHCOLE. A-H Dinner Suit, English, 32 pieces...

BOOSTER BARGAINS AT THORNBURY. AA-Have you seen my new dress...

BOOSTER BARGAINS AT CROXTON. AA-More Overcoat, dark grey...

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Friday Booster Bargains. Read carefully the Week-end Bargains listed below. Do your shopping with people who are offering cheap lines. Advertising rates, 16 words.

BOOSTER BARGAINS AT THORNBURY. AA-Have you seen my new dress...

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BOOSTER BARGAINS AT THORNBURY. AA-Have you seen my new dress...

BOOSTER BARGAINS AT PRESTON. A.B.C.—Genuine Home Made Milk Bread...

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WHERE TO GO PROGRAMME Saturday and Saturday Matinee: The Star

Friday and Saturday May 6 and 7 "Milton Dollar Handicap"

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THE REGENT WHERE QUALITY REIGNS High Street, Thornbury. Direction: F. W. THORNTON.

MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY Greta Garbo in "The Temptress"

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FOR REPAIRS... FIAT TRUCKS... No matter what your business, if you have haulage you cannot do better than purchase FIAT TRUCKS.

Northcote City Motors... Motor Engineers... General Engineers... (L. S. DILLON, Prop.)

ANNOUNCEMENT... THE NEW "WORLD" MORRIS... Quality Cars—Britain's answer to foreign competition.

Overland... C. ROLANDS, Authorized Dealer and Service Station... WILLYS KNIGHT CARS

WHITLESEA MOTOR GARAGE... Authorized Ford Dealer for the District... Improved Touring Car

PASCO'S... Order Now and Don't Be Disappointed from PASCO'S... 447 High Street, Northcote.

MOTURING AND CYCLING NOTES... THE ENTERPRISE WOMEN MOTORISTS... The difficulties which many motorists do not do, have thought to be very easy.

Northcote City Motors... Motor Engineers... General Engineers... (L. S. DILLON, Prop.)

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FOR THE LADIES... EVENING WRAP NO. 2899... Fashion has many vagaries, new styles coming in and going out at frequent intervals.

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LLEWELLYN JONES... (ROBERTSON & JONES) ESTATE AND INSURANCE AGENTS... 224 HIGH ST., CENTRAL PRESTON.

A. F. DEACON... ESTATE AGENT AND SWORN VALUATOR... 224 HIGH ST., CENTRAL PRESTON.

S. L. Willmott & Co... 363 High Street, Northcote... Estate Agents and Property Salesmen.

THE NOTED HOME... MILLINERY... We have a Large and Varied Selection to Choose from.

D. W. RODGER... 219 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOE... For my EGGS, BACON, BUTTER and CHEESE.

ARTHUR SHANDS... "FOR QUALITY TAILORING" 88 HIGH ST., NORTHCOE... RING NORTHCOE 1214.

CONFIDENCE... The Young Housewife... MEXICAN FLOUR... BAKER ON APPOINTMENT.

MORRIS BARROW & CO... The Australian Ink used in this issue was made at Preston by MORRIS BARROW & CO.

A. C. (BERT) HOOPER... FUEL AND FODDER MERCHANT... 43 HIGH ST., NORTHCOE.

J. G. ROBSON... REAL ESTATE AND FINANCE AGENT... 11 QUEEN STREET, DEANE.

FRANK BARTLEY... DENTAL SURGEON... 301 HIGH STREET, THORNHURBY.

GEORGE DALGLEISH... 507 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOE... SEE OUR DIAMOND RINGS FIRST.

CLIFF MOTORS... AUTHORIZED DEALERS IN MORRIS CARS and TRUCKS... SHOWROOMS: 211 QUEEN'S PARADE, CLIFTON HILL.

ANOTHER RADIO PROBLEM SOLVED... ANOTHER RADIO PROBLEM SOLVED... "A" AND "B" BATTERY CHARGER.

Arthur R. Bostock... Has Four Times the Circulation of any District Newspaper... Circulating in Northcote, Preston, Thomastown, Epping, Diamond Creek, Arthur's Creek, Whittlesea, Fairfield, Heidelberg, Clifton Hill.

PHENOMENAL VALUE... Australian FORDS... Tourer £155... 214 High Street, Preston.

MEET HEALTH EVERY DAY... F. LANTER'S PURE AUSTRALIAN WINES... 812-814 HIGH STREET, UPPER NORTHCOE.

GEORGE DALGLEISH... 507 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOE... SEE OUR DIAMOND RINGS FIRST.

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E. W. BRIGHTON... ELECTRIC ENGINEER AND CONDUCTOR... 187 HIGH STREET, THORNHURBY.

HEADACHES AND EYE STRAIN... COLES & GARLAND... 57 SYDNEY ROAD, BRUNNEN.

Paint up!... IT'S PAINTING TIME AT INGLIS'... 188 Plenty Road, Preston.

F. McCLEAN... FURRIER... 274 High St., Northcote.

KNAPP & MITCHELL... FIREWOOD, MALLEE ROOTS, BRIQUETTES... 82 HELEN STREET, NORTHCOE.

J. G. PASCO... CROXTON MOTOR GARAGE... 190 CROXTON ROAD, NORTHCOE.

MONEY TO LEND... CASH ADVANCED WITHOUT SECURITY AT A REASONABLE RATE OF INTEREST... 4 GENTLEMEN'S BUILDINGS, 100 W. ST. ST.

MORRIS... Cars and Trucks... We will take your used Car as Deposit... 64 ST. GEORGE'S ROAD, NORTHCOE.

MERRI BRIDGE MOTORS... 64 ST. GEORGE'S ROAD, NORTHCOE... Authorised Agents and Service Station.

IN THE FLASHLIGHT... BERNARD BOWTHORNE... Author of "The Jewels of St. Mark", "The Shadow of the Yarns", etc., etc.

CHAPTER XXV... "What is it?" asked Mr. Strickland... "I don't know," said the doctor.

CHAPTER XXVI... "What is it?" asked Mr. Strickland... "I don't know," said the doctor.

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CHAPTER XXIX... "What is it?" asked Mr. Strickland... "I don't know," said the doctor.



NOTHING ADDS SO MUCH TO HOME ENJOYMENT AS A PLAYER

YOU can have one of Income From 12/6 Weekly AND A SMALL DEPOSIT

One of our World-Famous Players by ASTOR-MODELLO OR LOHENGRIIN WILL BE PLACED IN YOUR HOME.

THESE PLAYERS are fitted with all the latest improvements and refinements. Call and hear a demonstration at one of our Showrooms.

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Anderson's COMPLETE HOME FURNISHERS. SPECIALISTS IN PIANOS AND PLAYERS.

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TO THOSE ABOUT TO BUILD A HOME. YOU WILL BE WISE TO ASK THESE QUESTIONS—

What will be the cost of insurance spread over 20 years? What will be the cost of building spread over 20 years?

Stability Construction Co. BEST SITE. PRESTON RESERVOIR. Build that home for you, for your slogan is—'We Build For Ever'

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HOUSE DECORATORS AND RENOVATORS. Recently opened at the newly enlarged premises.

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TAUBMAN'S FLOOR STAINS, VARNISHES, ENAMELS. SOLAR OIL, ROOF AND PAVING PAINTS.

WITH THE HELP OF THESE BOOKS YOU CAN MAKE THE LONG WINTER EVENINGS PLEASURABLE AND PROFITABLE.

HAPPY MARRIAGE. A little text book for husband and wife. Contains all the latest information.

THE AMATEUR MECHANIC. A little text book for husband and wife. Contains all the latest information.

THE COBBERS' CLUB

CONDUCTED BY UNCLE PHIL. Dear Cobbers—You will notice Bill Singleton has something to exchange.

OUR MAIL BAG. 41 Mitchell St., Northcote. Dear Uncle Phil—Will you please send me the monthly paper.

LOVE FROM UNCLE PHIL AND PETS. Uncle Phil and the Pets—Dear Cobbers—You will notice Bill Singleton has something to exchange.

STORIES. A man picked up a purse in the street and handed it to the youngest and prettiest of the king's three daughters.

THE ADVENTURES OF GOOD GWENNY AND NAUGHTY NANCY. While Gweny was crawling about in the street and finding out what she could do.

EXCHANGE NOTICES. Any of the following match brands—Telephone, Mercury (Sweden), Black Seal, etc.

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STAND PUBLICATIONS. 274 COLLINGS STREET, MELBOURNE.

THE BUREAU OF HEALTH. 450 LITTLE COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE.

THE HILL NURSERIES. 443 BOURKE STREET, MELBOURNE.

ALF. HARE. The Smart Men's Store. 343 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOLE.

STEWART & DAVIES. THE BUILDERS, LTD. 468 HIGH ST., NORTHCOLE.

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CROFT'S STORES. Week-End Special. New Season's Choice Tomatoes. 9d. per bushel.

WEDDING. HEATH-KENYON. The Church of the Epiphany, Bayview Street, was beautifully decorated.

POPULARITY GREATLY INCREASING. The rapid growth of the Booster Bargain Column has surprised everyone.

TO THOSE ABOUT TO BUILD A HOME. YOU WILL BE WISE TO ASK THESE QUESTIONS—

What will be the cost of insurance spread over 20 years? What will be the cost of building spread over 20 years?

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NORTHCOLE COURT

Before Mr. J. Colson, P.M., and Messrs. J. Colson, J. J. Jones, and J. E. Jones, J.P.s. Mr. Mansel Roberts.

Walter Roberts, Plaintiff, vs. Joseph Mansel Roberts, Defendant. The plaintiff claims that the defendant is liable for the cost of the defendant's legal expenses.

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FOR RELIABILITY FIAT TRUCKS, from £275 No matter what your business, if you have haulage you cannot do better than purchase FIAT TRUCKS. Made and exported by experts to withstand Australian conditions.

Northcote City Motors Motor Engineers General Engineers (L. S. DILLON, Prop.) HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE SOUTH (CORNER CANDY STREET).

ANNOUNCEMENT We have much pleasure in announcing that we have secured the Agency for the well known MORRIS CARS, which have recently been absolutely remodeled for Australian conditions.

THE NEW "WORLD" MORRIS Quality Cars—Britain's answer to foreign competition—made by an Australian firm possessing the most skillful workmen.

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Overland C. ROLANDS, Authorized Dealer and Service Station. CHURCH STREET, WHITLESSA. WILLYS KNIGHT CARS

WHITLESSA MOTOR GARAGE Authorized Ford Dealer for the District. Only Genuine Ford Parts Stocked & Fitted. Workmanship Guaranteed.

PASCO'S Order Now and Don't Be Disappointed from PASCO'S, 447 High Street, Northcote.

MOTORING AND CYCLING NOTES

IMPROVEMENTS IN BRAKING. The most recent of attention which has been given to the important matter of braking is the new enclosure to the motor car.

THE MOTOR SHOW. The third International Motor Show held at the Exhibition Building, Melbourne, and the great interest taken by the public in motor traffic was evident by the crowds which gathered to see the latest models.

THE HYDRAULIC BRAKE. The hydraulic brake is the newest of the new, and it has been having quite a lot of attention directed to it. Those who sponsor its use are convinced that it will advance which the system offers in really efficient, equalizing or compensating for the breaking effort on all the wheels.

PRESTON PROFESSIONAL CYCLING CLUB. Last Saturday's race marked the opening of the club's road season. There was a good number of riders. Among the new members were Mr. G. C. Hill, Mr. J. C. Hill, Mr. J. C. Hill, Mr. J. C. Hill.

THE GUN. A lengthy programme was put through at Reservoir on Saturday, and the necessary preliminaries were completed. Mr. P. C. Hill, from the Pacific coast of the United States of America, will be likely to suffer.

EARLY HISTORY OF MOTORING. In the "Auto" England, they are carrying a pair of reminiscences of motor car of a century ago. To obtain motorists it carries many a chuckle over the mishaps and accidents of that dawn era of motoring.

DANCING. MR. AND MRS. STRETTON. The dancing at the Ballroom, 222 High Street, Northcote, was a success. The dancing was a success. The dancing was a success.

MADDOCK, JAMIESON, AND SOLICITORS AND CONVEYANCERS. 125 and 126 Collins Street, Melbourne.

MADDEN AND CANNY, Solicitors and Conveyancers. The Old Office, 125 Collins Street, Melbourne.

W. H. VALE, Barrister & Solicitor. 125 Collins Street, Melbourne.

MR. B. GRAY, L.L.B., Barrister and Solicitor. 125 Collins Street, Melbourne.

THE NOTED HOME FOR MILLINERY. We have a Large and Varied Selection to Choose from.

MISS WINTER, 679 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE. Special Attention given to Matrons.

D. W. RODGER, 219 HIGH STREET, NORTHCOTE. For my EGGS, BACON, BUTTER and CHEESE.

CONFIDENCE The Young Housewife. The Young Housewife. The Young Housewife.

LLEWELLYN JONES (ROBERTSON & JONES) LEASES AND INSURANCE AGENTS.

ESTATE AND INSURANCE AGENTS. LEWELLYN JONES, AGENTS, 224 HIGH STREET, PRESTON.

A. F. DEACON, 254 HIGH ST., CENTRAL PRESTON. Estate and Insurance Agents.

J. G. ROBSON, REAL ESTATE AND FINANCE AGENT. 171 QUEEN STREET, CITY.

A. LEAHY & CO., PROPERTY SALESMEN. 901 HIGH STREET (Cable Tram Terminus), NORTHCOTE.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE. Transacts Fire, Marine, Motor and other insurances.

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ARTHUR SHANDS, 88 HIGH ST., NORTHCOTE. Now Sir-- What about that Overcoat?

MORRIS BARROW & CO., OLVER ST., PRESTON. The Australian Ink used in this issue was made at Preston by MORRIS BARROW & CO.

Public Weighbridge. Arthur R. Bostock, HAY, CHAFF, STRAW, GRAIN AND SEED MERCHANT.

S. L. Willmott & Co., 363 High Street, Northcote. Branch Office—Tyler street, East Preston Tram Terminus.

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IN THE FLASHLIGHT. Author of "The Jewels of Siam," "The Shadow of the Yarns," etc., etc. Published by Special Arrangement.

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MEET HEALTH EVERY DAY. The Purest and Most Nourishing of all Drinks for the invalid as well as the healthy.

MONEY TO LEND. LOANS ADVANCED WITHOUT SECURITY AT A REASONABLE RATE OF INTEREST.

Clifton Motors. AUTHORIZED DEALERS IN MORRIS CARS AND TRUCKS. SHOWROOMS: 211 QUEEN'S PARADE, CLIFTON HILL.

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HEADACHES AND EYE-TRAIN. If you suffer from Headaches or Eye-strain, if you cannot read small type, consult us.

Paint up! IT'S TIME AT INGLIS' Paints, Oils, Colors, Leadlights, Stainers, Varnishes, Brushware, etc. INGLIS', 188 Plenty Road, Preston.

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CHAPTER XXV. (Continued.) ON THE HAWKWOOD JOURNAL. "It is a joke," he asked, as Manning looked at him. "It is a joke," he asked, as Manning looked at him. "It is a joke," he asked, as Manning looked at him.

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M.R. N. LALL, LL.B., BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR. 115 Collins Street, Melbourne.

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MOTOR CASES. At Northcote court on Tuesday, a number of motor cases were heard.

NOISY MOTOR CYCLISTS. At Northcote court on Tuesday, a number of noisy motor cyclists were heard.

PAYMENT OF RATES TO SECURE ENROLLMENT. NOTICE is hereby given that no person will be entitled to be enrolled in the Municipal Council...

CITY OF NORTHCOE. The Rate Collector will attend at the Municipal Office...

WEDDINGS. On April 23, at the Holy Trinity Church, Thornbury, the Rev. Harvey...

EPHAPHANY MAY FAIR. The Lady Fair is connected with the Holy Trinity Church...

NORTHCOE COURT. Before Mr. J. J. Gahan, J.M., and Messrs. P. J. Mayer, J. Gahan, T. J. McMahon and H. C. Joyce, J.P.'s.

PRESTON COUNCIL. The annual meeting of the Preston Council was held on Monday evening...

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MOToring AND CYCLING NOTES Quantity Plus Quality. Now that British makers of inexpensive cars have taken wisely to quantity production, vehicles vary little in quality when they leave the factory. Engines may differ slightly in the matter of power output, but the actual road performance of, say, 100 motor cars from the same works should vary only slightly. But after six months' service what a difference in these 100 motor cars. The lives of modern low-powered cars differ to an extraordinary extent. Some are finished after 40,000 miles service, others are still going strong after 70,000 miles. Neglect is often the cause of rapid decay, especially neglect of lubrication. But the most frequent cause of deterioration in the small car is over-driving. It is the constant driving at or near maximum speed that shortens the life of a small engine.

With a high-powered car it is impossible, except on rare occasions, to drive on full throttle; consequently the engine is rarely stressed. If small car owners were content to drive well within the maximum speed of their engines, 40 when the maximum is 50, and 34 when the maximum is 45, they would find that their cars would have very nearly as long a life as the more expensive vehicle. Advisability of Testing Tyre Pressures. A big advertising campaign is being started in England to popularise the habit of testing tyre pressures regularly. Motorists are too apt to imagine that the maintenance of the correct pressures is necessary solely for the protection of the tyres; the tyres are long suffering components which show no visible signs of the ill-treatment which they have been receiving until some thousands of miles have been covered, so that the need for frequent testing is apt to be overlooked. While it is perfectly true that incorrect pressures have a most deleterious effect upon the tyres themselves, it must be realised that they have also an adverse effect in other directions. Unequal inflation of the front tyres, for example, will produce a drag upon the steering which, while it may be so small as to be almost undetectable when driving straight ahead on the crown of the road, may quite well render the car difficult to control or even dangerous, if a bend has to be negotiated at speed against the camber. Similar remarks apply to the adjustment of pressures as between the two rear wheels and between front and rear wheels; the effect of irregularities of inflation may not be serious under good conditions, but will become very noticeable as regards riding comfort and controllability on a very rough surface or on a smooth but greasy one. Briefly, then, the habit of testing tyre pressures frequently enables the best to be got out of the car and safe guards the tyres.

Glass That Will Not Break. According to an American paper there were 700,000 persons injured in automobile accidents in the United States last year. That figures down to five injuries in every four minutes, or one every 48 seconds. In no one of these 700,000 mishaps did the driver or drivers expect it. Each probably thought it was unlikely and, perhaps, one of them would ever have an accident. But it usually takes two to make an accident, and no matter how careful one motorist may be, the man in the other car may involve both cars in a smash-up. As flying glass is always a big factor in motor car accidents, an insurance association conducted its own investigation in the summer of 1925 into the subject, and reported on 1,000 accidents. The analysis showed that in these 1,000 accidents 720 persons were injured, and of these, 467, or 65 per cent., were injured by flying glass or by jagged glass edges. Sixty-five chances out of 100 that the motorist will be injured by glass in case of an accident. The hazard of riding behind the flying glass menace is, therefore, a two to one chance against the motorist. Triplex is a simple product. As its name indicates, it is a three-layer plate glass, and the middle layer is pyralin, a modern improvement on celluloid. These three layers are pressed together under heat and under very great pressure. An average Triplex windshield is created under a pressure of 40 tons. The result is a product in no way distinguishable from the best plate glass, except in the fact that it will not shatter. It has no reinforcing eye-confusing wires to interfere with the vision; it has no discoloration or dark hazy Triplex does not form an adamant wall. If it did, anyone thrown against it in an accident might break his neck. On the contrary, it resists impacts up to a certain degree of severity, and then it yields. The glass will not break with the jagged, lacerating edges that sever arteries and disfigure human faces. Motorists have been thrown through Triplex windshields without injury. Chemical processes of technical nature enter into the making of this glass, but substantially it is made as has been stated. Once welded together, the three layers must stay together. They cannot even be cut. Triplex glass must be made to measure for each particular job. It is not a new or untried product. Triplex has been widely used in England since before the war on common carriers, in the London subways, in the Royal Air Forces, and in hundreds of different ways in industry. It is optional equipment on the better class British cars. The navy uses it in submarines, the army in tanks and forts. Triplex glass is common in Europe wherever a safety glass is needed. It is manufactured in the United States by an American company began in 1925.

History of Petrol and Derivatives. Only 75 years ago the sale of petroleum products was practically confined to a few experimental medicinal preparations. A little later in the 19th century the manufacture of illuminating and lubricating oils commenced, and rapidly increased, but the lightest of all the distillates now known as petrol, was for years regarded as a waste product, of no importance, until the advent of the internal-combustion engine. Petrol, from which petrol is derived, is found in many parts of the world, and many theories as to how it was initially formed have been argued by scientists. The pioneers of oil-finding in Pennsylvania round about 1800 in fact believed it to be indigenous to the valley of the Allegheny. Nowadays the theory that has gained the most general acceptance is that petroleum was originally formed by the prolonged action of heat and pressure upon the remains of millions of small marine animals. The first well actually to be drilled was one put down by Col. Drake at Oil Creek, West Pennsylvania in 1859, and from that time until 1875 this oil-field spread rapidly, and was the only one of any importance in the United States. Like many of the pioneers of the oil industry, Drake failed to profit financially from his enterprise, and actually died in 1847, in an exception to this rule, as he died one of the wealthiest men in Scotland. Since these early days the history of oil production has been eventful with romance, appalling disasters, such as the great fire at Baku, and oil wars between the big companies concerned in its production. Petroleum has been known and used for thousands of years, however. In its asphaltic form it was employed as a mortar for the bricks which went into the building of Babylon, and of the Greek and Roman architects. For a thousand years or more crude petroleum has been burnt in India, and for thousands of years ago oil was being produced in a Caucasus on a commercial basis. It is related that on one occasion, in Persia, Alexander the Great was entertained by the sudden illumination produced by the ignition of a train of petroleum laid along a city street, combustion being initiated by a torch—not a sparking-plug. British chemists had much to do with the development of processes of treating crude petroleum, and to British chemists is due the credit of being the first to develop the tanker, specially designed for the transport of oil in bulk across the seas. For over 40 years the building and running of tankers was exclusively in British hands. It is interesting to record that the word "Petrol" is in reality a coined commercial term somewhat akin to "Kodak" as was pointed out by Mr. F. R. Simms, and it was originally applied to the products of Messrs. Carless, Capel and Leonard, England, who were the pioneer suppliers of petrol in that country. Nowadays, oil wells are sunk by percussion or by rotary drilling to depths of thousands of feet down to the oil-bearing strata, and the petrol is either pumped up or may gush out under the pressure of natural gases. It is a viscid fluid, varying from light brown to a greenish-black in color, and consists essentially of a great variety of hydro-carbon compounds, together with a certain proportion of impurities. The treatment which the crude petroleum undergoes consists of two distinct processes—distillation and refining.

CYCLING PRESTON PROFESSIONALS.

On Saturday afternoon the above club held a 15 mile handicap on the Plenty road. The day was ideal. The light showers before the race put the road in very fair condition, and a great and fast finish was a fitting end to such a race. The race attracted a large number of riders and supporters, and among the riders for the first time was H. Welch, who made his debut for the event. He was captain of last season's Preston junior amateur team that won the amateur championship. Merv. Clarke, who was Preston's amateur junior champion a couple of seasons ago, has also joined the club. Amongst other members taking part for the first time this season was Norm. McLean, a amateur champion of this season. Regularly joining up each week the club are looking forward to a bright chance of winning the road trophy again this year. The club intend to hold a "billy run" on June 12, in preparation for their forthcoming annual 50 mile road race, which will pass through Huxtable, Arthur's Creek and Yax Valley. Members are asked to keep this date free and attend the "billy run," so that all members will be familiar with roads over which this race is to be run. The run will be captained by Ern. Eakinbridge. The committee are looking for ways and means to make this big event a success. Followers of the sport who are before the war in the welfare of the club would greatly assist by helping in the way of a small donation towards the expenses. Donations will be gratefully received by the secretary, Mr. L. Cox, 127 Plenty road, Preston. Results for 15 mile handicap were—F. McLeod (2 min.), 1; A. Turnbull (2 min. 30 sec.), 2; A. Bell (3 min.), 3. Winner's time, 43 min. 3 sec. Fastest time unplaced, H. Welch, 41 min. 50 sec.

(To the Editor.) "Sir,—In the cycling notes in the "Leader" of May 13, it is stated that the Northcote Amateur Cycling Club held a 10 mile handicap race on Plenty road on Saturday, May 7, and following on that the Preston professionals held a 10 mile handicap race also on the Plenty road. The time was given as 28 min. 42 sec. and the Preston professional time as 28 min. 42 sec. In fairness to the riders of the Preston club, I would like to state

that the Northcote race was a mile less than ours. If our club rode 10 miles, which we think they did, the Northcote race was only nine miles. If the Northcote race was 10 miles, then the Preston race was 11 miles. I would be pleased if you would publish this, as the way it was published makes it look as if our club riders were a very poor class of riders, which we will not admit, as we were good enough to win the professional club premiership last season.—Yours, etc., L. W. COX. Hon. Sec. Preston Professionals, 127 Plenty Rd., Preston.

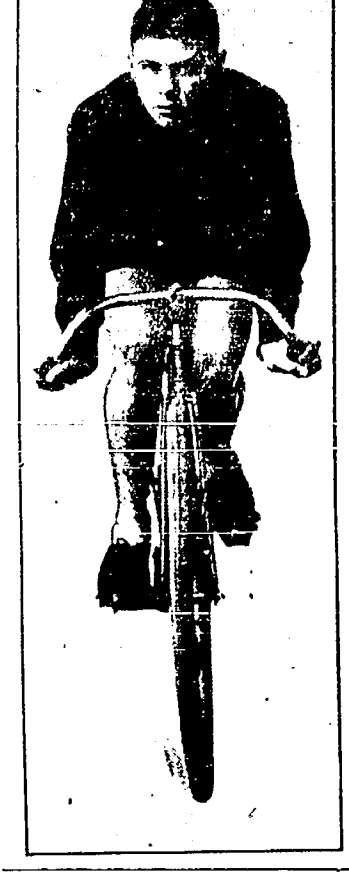
First Win in Open Company.

Johnny Kean deserved his win in the Victorian Amateur Union's 10-mile open handicap at Carnegie, if only on the strength of the fine tactics he brought into play to dispose of the opposition. But, even if he had not taken his bunch by storm, his consistency since joining up with the Northcote club was worthy of such a reward. Kean began his cycling career less than two years ago, and though he had not done anything outstanding in open company previously he has nevertheless been a consistent performer right throughout the last road season. Kean rode prominently, and at one stage was considered as having a splendid chance of winning the Bruce Small aggregate cup. However, he did not act up to expectations, and the trophy went to Pat. Campbell, Kean being in the first six.

Until last Saturday his best effort on the road may be said to have been his double in the Northcote club's annual 50 mile road race. Kean scored a great win in that race last year, a wonderful ride also bringing him fastest time honors. Kean, who is 18 years of age, was born at Northcote, and is a grocer by occupation, being employed by his father. He is a stockily built lad, standing 5ft. 4in. in his socks, and weighing the beam at 104 lb. He has nothing but praise for his trainer, Stan. Pratt. Besides cycling, cricket and football have taken up some of his leisure moments.

Last year he was a member of the Jenkin Junior Cricket Club at Northcote, and was one of their trundlers in the winning premiership match. The year before he played with the Dennis Juniors (old winners), and young Kean took 50 wickets at a cost of five runs each—a very fine performance.

Prior to taking up cycling, Kean was a member of the Thornbury C.Y.M.S. Football Club, and he was one of the team's most dashing half forwards. In the track season just closed Kean won a mile handicap of 169 yards, and was runner-up in the two mile wheel race at Beaufort in December. Two years ago, when Kean made his debut on the road, he was second



In a five mile unassisted race. This naturally acted as an incentive to the young wheelman, who later on was runner-up in a half mile track handicap. The performance put up by Kean stamps him as a rider of promise, and with youth on his side he should forge several more links in Northcote's long chain of successes. Kean was riding a "Preston Star" cycle supplied by Preston Star Cycles works, 804-6 High St., Northcote.

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