BUSINESS NOTICES.

NEW ZEALAND H B CLOTHING FACTORY

We are This Week

making a Special Display of

Warm Winter Underclothing.

The Best Value ever shown in Ashburton.

L W Underpants, heavy make
L W Underpants, light make
L W Underpants for small Men
L W Underpants for Men
L W Underpants for out-size men
L W Underpants for extra out-size men

N.Z. Clothing Factory.

L W Undershirts in fine and heavy makes and in all sizes

—:o:—

HALLENSTEIN BROS.

ALEX. HENDRY, Manager.

MILLINERY.

13|9 | Stylish, but not Expensive. | 13|9

We have a reputation for High Art Creations in Millinery of extreme beauty.

We also wish to prove now that our Prices are low.

30 Hats Have been Tastefully and will be displayed in our windows this week. Each one is different. Each one has the style of a 2gn. model. The price is 13s 9d each

Millners and Dressmakers.

ALCORN'S DRAPERY. CLOTHING & BOOT HOUSE.

Tailors and Outfitters.

SHEARMAN BROS.,

Grocers, Ironmongers, Wine and Spirit Merchants.

Finest Roller FLOUR—Per Ton, £10; 200lb Sacks, 21s; 100lb Bags, 11s; 50lb Bags, 5s 9d; 25lb Bags, 3s.

Gore OATMEAL—Highest quality, 25lb Bags, 3s.

No. 1 Cane SUGAR, 2½d per lb; 70lb Bags, 14s 6d; 56lb Bags, 11s; 40lb Bags, 8s 3d

Candles (stearne)	5d lb	New Dates	6d lb
Candles (wax)	6d „	Sago (finest white)	1½d „
Currants (cleaned)	4d „	Rice (best Japan)	2d „
Sultanas (cleaned)	6d „	Tapioca (pearl or flake)	1½d „
Raisins (cleaned)	5½d „	Pearl Barley	2d „
Raisins (seeded)	7d „	Herrings fresh)	6½d
Figs (Dessert)	8d „	Herrings (kippered)	9d
Carbonate Soda	3 1 „	Herrings in Tomato Sauce	9d
Cream Tartar	1s 3d „	Mullet	6½d
Baking Powder (Edmonds)	5½d and 11d „	Salmon	9d
Jam (1lb tins, assorted)	5d „	Salmon Steak	1s
Jam 1lb tins (per doz)	4s 3d	Sardines	from 4d to 1s
Jam 2lb Jars (assorted)	1s 3d	1lb Packet Choice Prunes	8d
Jam 2lb Jars (Raspberry and Strawberry	1s 6d	1lb Packet Apricot and Peaches	9d
Dried Apples	9d	Finest Mixed Peel	8d

Customers may always rely on being supplied from a large and well selected stock of Groceries at the most reasonable prices.

GUNS! CARTRIDGES! GUNS!

Splendid value in Single and Double Barrelled Guns. Double Barrelled Guns at £3, £4, and £5.

Eley's Blue, New Club, Nitro Club, (Loader with Dupont Smokeless Powder). Cartridges always in stock.

Wringers at 13s 6d, 15s 6d, 16s 6d, and 17s 6d.

Electro Plated Goods a specialty, suitable for Wedding Presents.

Table Cutlery by the very best makers. A large assortment of Pocket Knives and Razors.

Enamel Saucepans, Stewpans; Dishes at lowest prices.

Spades, Digging Forks, Gorse Knives, Plough Shares of every make.

Coarse Castor, Raw and Boiled Linseed, Neatsfoot, and Lubricating Oils always on hand. Splendid assortment of Brushware and Lampware.

Agents for Clark's Carbolised Wheat Protector.

Orders by post promptly attended to.

SHEARMAN BROS.,

Market House, Burnett Street, Ashburton.

Telephone No. 53.

"HOW CAN YOU SELL SO CHEAP?"

NUMBERS of delighted Customers are constantly asking us this question. The answer is simple, and as clear as daylight. Our Business is run on READY-MONEY lines, enabling us to BUY on the very BEST TERMS, and also to avoid the heavy LOSSES entailed by BOOK DEBTS, while working expenses being very small we can afford to SELL at the FINEST margin of PROFIT. Here you have the whole thing

IN A NUTSHELL.

Why PAY the BIG PRICES charged by Firms doing a CREDIT trade to cover their heavy upkeep and losses incurred.

REMEMBER!—We aim at up-to-date bedrock value all round, not ticketing a few "leading" lines at low prices as "baits," which are no criterion of general value offered. Cut the duff where you will—

Plums Everywhere—Right Throughout.

The following are a few Quotations from Goods just opened:—

BLANKETS—English, coloured, from 7s 11d, White from 8s 11d. ASHBURTON do. all sizes at Special Prices.
WHITE QUILTS in Honeycomb, Grecian, Marcella, and Satin 'finish,' Prices 3s 6d to 25s each.
A few superior Down Quilts at a very slight advance on landed cost.
TABLE COVERS—A very choice lot of Reversible Chenile-Fringed, in 1yd, 1¼yd, and 2yds square, also 2½ds by 2½yds; Prices, 3s 6d to 15s 6d.
TAPESTRY COVERS 2yds and 2½yds, 7s 11d to 13s 6d.
LACE CURTAINS, New range, just opened 2s 6d to 12s 6d a pair.
BLOUSE FLANNELETTES.—(Cashmere and Flannel finish) in latest styles, also Figured Velvets, surprising value.
FLANNELETTES—Heavy Twilled, 1s 11d, 2s 6d, and 2s 11d half dozen both plain and striped.
COLONIAL FLANNELS in White, Pink, and Shetland Grey from 9½d.
MEN'S W.P. COATS, new shape, with Velvet Collars, guaranteed rainproof selling fast 20s each.
MEN'S SADDLE TWEED TROUSERS, 7s 11d, 10s 6d, 12s 6d.
MEN'S STRONG TWEED SUITS from 21s; Men's All-Wool Colonial do, 23s 9d to 45s; Men's Heavy Ribbed Colonial Under Pants 3s 11d, worth 5s 6d; Men's Colonial Under Flannels, full size 2s 11d, 3s 6d, 3s 11d; Men's strong Union Shirts 3s 6d, 3s 11d, 4s 6d; Cotton Shirts from 2s 6d.
Cycling Sweaters, special, 4s 11d.
BUSH RUGS 3s 11d, 4s 6d, 5s 11d, 8s 11d 10s 6d.
BOYS' CLOTHING—A special lot just opened, made to our special order, and bought at a substantial discount.
HATS, Collars, Ties, Braces, Collar Studs Mufflers and General Mercery, at Lowest Spot Cash Prices.

EDWARD GIBBARD, DRAPER & CLOTHIER, Tancred Street, opposite Arcade.

MONEY TO LEND

ON approved Freehold Security in Sums of £100 to £10,000 at Rates varying from 4½ per cent. per annum.

Perry, Perry & Kinnerney,
Solicitors, Timaru. 3 201

BARGAINS in Boots and Shoes at MELLOR'S Zealandia Boot Store.

GENTLEMEN requiring ready-made Suits cannot do better than inspect our new heavy makes for winter wear. Prices range from 26s 6d to 50s. Also a splendidly made and finished Vicuna in navy at 39s. The above are alone worth inspection.—Grant and Moore.

(A CARD.)

G. H. BUCHANAN,

Solicitor.

OFFICES—Burnett Street (in corridor to Thomas's Auction Rooms),
Ashburton. 4 4

PICTURES FRAMED ARTISTICALLY.

Picture Frames Renovated.

Artists' Materials

of every description, including Canvas, etc
JOHN WILSON, Burnett Street.

F. FERRIMAN

For Sale,

East Town Belt, Ashburton.

I HAVE received instructions from Mr John W. Hardley to sell his property situated on the Belt.

The section has two frontages, and contains about ½ an acre. The house is, comparatively speaking, quite a new one, and is complete with every modern convenience.

As Messrs Hardley Bros. have disposed of their business, and are removing from Ashburton at an early date, my instructions are to effect a prompt sale.

An early inspection is necessary, as at the price asked the property will not remain long in the market.

Easy terms of payment can be arranged, and further particulars will be supplied on application to

F. FERRIMAN,
Land and Estate Agent.

FOR SALE,

FARM of 100 Acres; good Plains land near Wakanui. There is an abundant supply of water and sheep feed.

F. FERRIMAN,
Land and Estate Agent.

FOR SALE,

Opposite the High School,

A NEW House of 7 rooms and offices, with ¼ Acre of land. The section lies high above the road level, and with the dwelling, forms a very desirable place of residence. Immediate possession can be given.

F. Ferriman,
Land and Estate Agent.

FOR SALE.

A FARM comprising 50 Acres of good land, with house and stables, situated near Mayfield.

F. FERRIMAN,
Land and Estate Agent.

FOR SALE,

TOWN Sections in various parts of the Town.

F. FERRIMAN,
Land and Estate Agent.

Fairfield.

I HAVE for Sale, a farm containing 135 Acres, with dwelling of 3 rooms. The land is sub divided, and is well watered. It is admirably adapted for cutting up into 5 small farms containing about 27 Acres each, and for that purpose should command the attention of all Factory employees, who are anxious to obtain a few acres situated near the Factory, where they can keep a horse and cow.

Full particulars can be had, and easy terms can be arranged on application.

F. FERRIMAN,
Land and Estate Agent.

TO LET,

Wills Street West, facing the Domain.

I AM instructed by Mr W H. Alington to Let his very desirable property for a term. The house can be had furnished or unfurnished, to suit the requirements of applicants. The property is situated in a favourite locality, within a stone's throw of the Railway Station. The land is beautifully laid out in lawns, flower and vegetable gardens, and is in an excellent state of cultivation.

Full particulars on application to

F. FERRIMAN,
Land and Estate Agent.

Investments.

I HAVE a sum of £24,000 for investment on first class rural securities, in sums to suit borrowers at 4½ per cent.

Apply
F. FERRIMAN,
Land and Estate Agent.
F. FERRIMAN.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

DRAPERY and CLOTHING SALE.

FOR ONE MONTH.

including New Goods just Arrived

Compare the Prices:

Lot of Towels, all at 9d
Wide Flannelettes, striped, white, and cream 3s 11d doz.
New Prints 2s 11d the doz.
Lot sample Umbrellas at wholesale price, 2s 11d upwards
Colonial Knitted Bloomers from 3s 11d pair
Down Quilts, large size, 12s 6d, now 7s 11d
Last year's Blankets, slightly soiled, from 8s 11d pair
Large Hearth Rugs 1s 11d
Lovely Velveteens 2s 6d, now 1s 10d yard

W. H. PEARCE,

Cash Draper.

EAST STREET.

John Hall & Co., Limited.

Crown Brand Tea Supply Stores,
Corner Bullock's Arcade and Tancred St., and Christchurch.

IF you are unable to obtain Crown Brand Coupon Tea from your grocer purchase direct from Crown Brand Supply Stores.

YOU can get it cheaper at The Crown Brand Tea Supply Stores. Afternoon Tea provided free. Something for nothing.

WANTED 10,000 persons to call at Crown Brand Supply Stores to test a cup of our Celebrated Crown Tea. We don't deceive the public, so before purchasing tea come and sample Crown Brand provided free of charge; once used always used. To every purchaser of 5lbs Crown Brand Coupon Tea we give a handsome Teapot free, a silver Teaspoon to every purchaser of 1lb of Tea, and to every child making a purchase from our Stores we give free of charge a packet of sweets. We are the only Tea Company who wish the Public to test a cup of our Tea, before purchasing it.

COME one, come all, and have a Musical afternoon. Tea provided free. See our Prize Lists. Crown Brand Tea is only sold in Packets and Tins. Don't accept bulk Tea as Crown Brand.

BEWARE of Imitations—We are the largest Tea Importers in New Zealand, therefore we are able to give good value for your money. 4 300

H. GRESHAM,

SURGEON AND MECHANICAL

DENTIST.

By Examination, October, 1897.

EIGHT years experience with E. G. and F. W. Gresham, Dentists, Dunedin and Invercargill.

Has commenced practice in rooms upstairs from the entrance to Thomas' Auction Rooms, Burnett Street.

Stoppings in Gold, Amalgam, and Cement. Gold and Porcelain crowns made; also sets of teeth with Vulcanite and Porcelain gums. Gas administered. All work guaranteed.

HOURS OF ATTENDANCE—9 a.m.—5 p.m.
Private Residence—Care MRS GRANT, Wills Street.

WANTED Known—Hot and cold water laid on, windmills and pumps fixed by competent workmen, who are sent to any part of the district at shortest notice. HARDLEY BROS. 2 224

Mail Notices.

FRIDAY, May 1.

For Australian States (due Sydney May 6), and South Africa, also Northern Ports per Moeraki, at 10.30 a.m.

SATURDAY, May 2.

For Northern Ports and Westport, per Rotomahana, at 6 p.m.

The next best despatch for the United Kingdom is via San Francisco, leaving Ashburton on May 5th, and is due in London on June 6th.

Commercial.

London Wool Markets.

CHRISTCHURCH, April 28.

Messrs Dalgety and Co. have received the following cable message from their London office, under yesterday's date:—"The list of arrivals for the third series of sales is closed. The total Colonial wool available (including old stocks) is 208,000 bales."

Ashburton Live Stock Market.

The following concludes our report of yesterday's sale:—Store Sheep—Lambs 10s 7d to 11s 1d; crossbred ewes, 4, 6, and 8 tooth, 12s 1d to 14s 2d; ewes and wethers, 2 and 4 tooth, 12s to 13s 9d; merino ewes 3s 5d to 5s 7d, aged ewes 6s 3d to 7s 10d.

Ashburton Guardian

MAGNA EST VERITAS ET PRÆVALEBIT.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 1903.

LAND FOR SETTLEMENT.

WE have frequently urged in these columns that the Government should endeavour to acquire land in this district for the purposes of close settlement; but while we see estates being purchased and cut up all over New Zealand, nothing has been done in that direction hereabouts since Highbank and Marawiti became the property of the Crown. It will be remembered that some years ago negotiations were entered into by the Government for the purchase of the Lagmhor estate; but they fell through, because the Land Purchase Department thought the price asked was too high. Yet everybody knows that some thousands of acres—not by any means the pick of the estate—were subsequently sold at a much higher price per acre than the proprietor had asked the Government. It would have turned out an excellent bargain for the State had Lagmhor been purchased at the time referred to, and at the price asked by Mr Buckley. Whether the property could be secured now at the same figure, we cannot say, but there can be no doubt that it would pay the country to acquire the ownership at the present time, as the establishment of the dairying industry on a sound footing in this district is now practically assured. There is another property that might be advantageously acquired by the Crown for close settlement, and that is the Acton estate. It is not exactly in this county, but, the situation is convenient to Ashburton, and the land is good; and it would be very satisfactory to the people of this locality to learn that Government intended to purchase it for subdivision. It is rather unfortunate for us that our representative, Mr McLachlan, does not make any attempt to further the wishes of his constituents in this matter of providing for the closer settlement of the district. In a letter to this journal some weeks ago, he denied that there were any estates in this neighbourhood that could be profitably acquired by the Crown for subdivision. It is true he expressed his willingness to advocate the purchase by the Government of any suitable estate that could be pointed out, and asked us to indicate one such. We have waited for some time, in the hope that Mr McLachlan would take the hint we had given him and approach the Government on the matter. But as he has made no sign, we have now named two estates that might very well be purchased for the purpose of being subdivided and settled by small farmers. It must be evident to everybody who has considered the subject, that this would be of very great advantage to Ashburton, and would tend to the increased prosperity of the whole district.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

WEATHER FORECAST.—Captain Edwin wires:—Moderate to strong northerly winds; glass fall.

HAMPSTEAD SCHOOL COMMITTEE.—The ordinary meeting night of the Hampstead School Committee has been fixed for the third Friday in each month throughout the year.

THE STOKE ORPHANAGE FIRE.—A Press Association telegram from Nelson states that the remains of the boy missing from the Stoke Orphanage after the fire have been found amongst the ruins.

BANKRUPT ESTATES.—The Deputy Official Assignee in Bankruptcy notifies that statements of accounts of certain bankrupt estates have been duly filed, and that he intends to apply for an order of release on May 13th,

PRODUCE FOR SOUTH AFRICA.—The subsidised steamer Norfolk, which sails from Wellington to-day for South Africa, is practically a full ship. Included in her cargo are 19,000 carcasses mutton, 1500 lambs, 1500 quarters beef 1500 live sheep, and a considerable quantity of butter, cheese, and poultry. The shipment of oats is very large.

LIFE IN SAMOA.—Our readers are reminded of the lecture to be delivered to-night in the Baring Square Church by Rev. J. W. Collier on missionary life in Samoa. As previously noted, Mr Collier is a speaker of no mean repute, and his facts are presented in a most fascinating style.

IMPORTANT TO THE MUSICAL PEOPLE.—The Dresden Company beg to announce that they are very heavily over-stocked in high-class pianos and organs. Intending purchasers would do well to call and inspect the large stock of instruments, as no reasonable offer will be refused during the month. As the sale is drawing to a close, those in need of first-class instruments should call at once and inspect our stock. All information can be had from A. Jackson, travelling representative, or Henry Stephenson, auctioneer, local agent, 4 386

MUTUAL LIFE ASSOCIATION.—The Mutual Life Association of Australasia has exceeded its record of last year. The new business, which was the largest in its history, amounted to £760,606—an advance of almost £50,000. The new premiums thereon amounted to £30,352, an increase of £5000. The renewal premiums total £171,829, or £12,712 more than in 1901. The funds have increased by over £100,000, and the interest rate has been well maintained. The expenses show a gratifying decrease. Altogether the report of the year's business is one that the policy holders may regard with satisfaction.

THE PRICE OF FLOUR.—The Champion Defenders of the North hear that the Flour Trusts price for sack flour at the mill door, where wheat is grown, is Ten pounds per ton, yet the Trust can afford to rail flour to Lyttelton and put it f.o.b. the steamer for Auckland at Nine Pounds ten shillings, less two and a half per cent discount, as well as paying agent's commission, thus indirectly making your bread winners find the fighting money.—P. VIRTUE, Manager Northern Milling Company.—(ADVT. 4 254

IMPORTANT TO LADIES.—I have just received a shipment of Ladies' "Special" Rudge-Whitworth Bicycles, the most beautiful lady's bicycle in the market, being fitted with the Rudge-Whitworth patent frictionless free wheel, celluloid gear case, and cable brakes; highest prices allowed for second-hand bicycles, and easy terms arranged.—R. D. JOHNSTON, Burnett Street

For Bronchial Cough, take Woods Great Peppermint Cure, 1s 6d and 2s 6d everywhere.

FUNERAL.—The funeral of the late Mr Wm. Stalker, junr., took place this afternoon, when a large number of friends followed the remains of deceased to their last resting place in the Ashburton Cemetery.

GYMNASTIC CLUB.—The Gymnastic Club will be opened on Friday evening next, when Professor Bickerton will give a lecture on "Health and exercise" to ladies and gentlemen. Members and intending members are reminded that a meeting will be held after the lecture to arrange costume and receive application forms for membership, also subscriptions, which are payable strictly in advance.

MR SEDDON AND THE ARBITRATION LAW.—In addressing a deputation, which waited on him some time back, with reference to the Auckland furniture dispute, the Premier said that if the law did not give the protection to employees which he thought every employer and right-minded person in the colony would admit they were entitled to, the law would have to be altered to give such protection. In view of the Auckland decision, it is understood that the Premier will bring the matter before Parliament at the earliest opportunity.

THE BURGESS ROLL.—A correspondent who voted at the Mayoral election last year writes:—"To-day I attended to vote, and found my name was not on the burgess roll, and consequently I was barred exercising my privilege. With the exception of inspecting the burgess roll, I have complied with all the requirements of the Act, and if it only remains that one is to personally attend to certify that others have properly performed their duties, the sooner an amendment is made in the Act the better."

SUDDEN DEATH.—William Murphy, a native of Sydney, aged 63, engaged as a cook for the season with Mr R. Meaclem's threshing plant, died somewhat suddenly last night. A few days ago the deceased complained of being unwell, and another man was put on to do the work. Last night he saw Dr Trevor, who advised him to go to the Hospital. Murphy, however, returned to his bunk in the hut, intending to go to the Hospital this morning, and must immediately have died as he was found dead shortly after he was seen to enter the hut. The body was removed to the Hospital this morning, where a post mortem was held. An inquest was proceeding as we went to press.

SCHOOL PICNIC.—A picnic in connection with the Rangitata station Sabbath school was held in the school grounds on Saturday last. The day being fine there was a very good attendance of children, parents, and friends. A very happy time was spent, and at dusk all returned to their homes well satisfied with the day's outing. On Sunday the prizes were distributed at the close of the service by the Rev W. Gillies. Mr Gillies preached a most impressive and interesting sermon, his text being "For of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." There was a large congregation, the schoolroom being full to the doors. All the hymns chosen were well known to the children, and the singing was very hearty. Mr Gillies, at the close, complimented the children on their good behaviour, and the attentive way they had listened to him. The Sabbath school teachers wish to record their most hearty thanks to all the parents and friends who kindly supplied the funds to buy such excellent prizes for the children.

RAKAIA SWIMMING CLUB'S SOCIAL.—The Rakaia Swimming Club held its annual social in the Oddfellows' Hall on Thursday evening. There was a good attendance of guests, and a most enjoyable time was spent. Mrs Gordon supplied excellent music, and Mr W. Pearce acted as M.C. in his usually efficient manner. All the arrangements were most satisfactory, and the officers are to be congratulated on the success of their annual gathering. During the evening Mr A. Rountree, Captain of the Club, who is leaving for Christchurch, was the recipient of a very handsome marble clock. Mr Geo. Hardie, vice-Captain, made the presentation, and in a very neat speech eulogised Mr Rountree's many services to the Club, he having been one of the promoters, and filled the office of Captain for the past seven years. Several other members of the Club testified to Mr Rountree's untiring efforts to promote the objects of the Club, and joined in wishing him and Mrs Rountree and son every success. Mr Rountree responded in suitable terms. Mr Rountree was a very useful member of the Club, and will be greatly missed.

TO THE LADIES.—The ladies of Ashburton and district will be interested to know that Strange and Co. are just now showing at their sample rooms in Burnett Street (Mr Sandrey's) a really fine assortment of fashionable Winter jackets, including a further large selection of their famous thirty-five shilling jackets in all wool Kaiapoi tweeds. They are also showing a grand selection at their Ashburton sample rooms of fine Colonial Winter blankets. 4 383

News in Brief.

Mr D. Thomas will offer at the Arcade on Saturday an entry of first-class draught horses.

Mr C. W. Purnell, solicitor, has money to lend on freehold security.

The overdraft of the Dunedin City Council is at present £64,250.

Messrs Strange and Co. are showing at their sample rooms, Burnett Street, a fine assortment of fashionable winter jackets for ladies.

It is currently reported that a gentleman who is manager in Dunedin city of a soft-goods establishment has inherited a property worth about £20,000 by the death of a relative by marriage at Timaru.

Three strangers (able-bodied men) entered a Westport restaurant the other day, consumed a good square meal, and coolly walked off with the statement that they had no money to pay for the food.

Messrs G. Hefford and Co., Drapers, have a replace advertisement stating that their stock of Dress Goods, Stylish Jackets, and Millinery, is up to date, and is the cream of fashion. Ladies will find this firm caters specially for their requirements.

The Dresden Piano Company announce that their sale of pianos and musical instruments is about to close, and remind the public generally that now is the time to buy. The instruments are on view in their show rooms (which have recently been redecorated) at Mr Henry Stephenson's establishment, Havelock street, and their travelling agent, Mr Jackson, is in attendance.

MINING

DUNEDIN, April 29

To-day's sales—New Alpine Consols 18s 6d, 19s; New Bendigo 3½ 6d; Central Charlton 12s; Davis Bend (contbs.) 1s 9d prem.; Dunstan Lead 11s; Electric 40s 6d; Golden River 2s 6d; Prince Arthur 13s 6d; Riley's Beach 20s.

An Item of Interest.

For some time we have been publishing statements in these columns recommending the use of certain pills for the removal of backache and kidney trouble. And the fact that these recommendations emanate from well known residents of this town is a guarantee of Doan's Backache Kidney Pills. If these pills were devoid of merit, they would now rank with the hosts of failures; instead, they are one of the greatest successes. The sales are rapidly increasing and more people are being rendered grateful for the discovery of such a pleasant means of relief from suffering. Here are a few names of the many people who have been cured by the use of Doan's Backache Kidney Pills:—Mrs Lockhard, Cox street; Mr T. Alexander, Moore street; Mrs H. Dalley, Wills street, Hampstead; Mr T. Pritchard, senr., Suffolk street, Trevorton; Mrs McKee, storekeeper, Beach Road; Mrs Clayton, Tancred street; and others. These are all Ashburton people, and what applies to Ashburton is true of every town in New Zealand, where local cases are being advertised from week to week. Merit alone has made Doan's Backache Kidney Pills a household word in New Zealand.

Householders' Meetings.

HAMPSTEAD.

The following report of the old Committee was read at the meeting of householders at Hampstead on Monday evening:—

It has been the custom since the present Education Act was brought into force for School Committees to give an account of their management to the householders at the general annual meeting. In following that custom we have to report that during the last twelve months the school has been twice examined by Inspector Ritchie, who reported very favourably on the work. The Committee are well satisfied with the Inspector's reports, and consider that the teachers have faithfully and earnestly discharged their duties during the year. It is most pleasing to report that the headmaster heartily commends the behaviour and diligence of the children, and so far as is known to us they have conducted themselves with perfect propriety throughout the year. There have been a good many changes in the teaching staff. Miss Williamson resigned in June to the deep regret of the Committee, the teachers and the children. She was one of the most efficient and painstaking teachers that ever taught in any school, and possessed the most amiable gift of winning the affection and confidence of all her pupils. Mr Richard Nell, one of our pupil teachers, died after a short illness, and is sincerely mourned by all who knew him. He was a gentle, winsome and handsome boy, and gave great promise of usefulness. He was beloved by the children and during the time he was in the service of the Board discharged his duties with great fidelity. In place of these teachers the following have been added to the staff:—Misses Porter, McKee, Morland and Williams. We are pleased to report that they have come to us with excellent testimonials, and have entered heartily into the work of the school. Arbor Day was observed by the children, and three trees, the gift of Mr Smith of the Domain, were planted, with becoming ceremony, in the playground. The King's Coronation was also appropriately observed. The County Council made a gift of £5 to your Committee, which was spent in fruit and sweets for the children. The Government sent medallions of the King and Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales to each child. The Committee met in the schoolgrounds with the children, patriotic speeches were made, and "very happy and memorable hour was spent together. The annual excursion was held as usual, and the children attending school were taken free of charge to Timaru. The excursion was largely patronised, the weather was beautiful, and everybody greatly enjoyed the outing. In March last about 80 of the children of the upper standards visited the ships of war lying at Lyttelton. They were carried by the Government free of cost, and had the run of all the ships in Port. The officers and men entertained teachers and children with lavish hospitality and went to no end of trouble to show and explain everything that was to be seen on a warship. The hearty thanks of parents and children are due to the Government, the Education Board, the Admiral of the fleet, and officers and crew, for the delightful treat afforded to the children. Your Committee has already thanked all parties concerned for their kindness to the children. Through the liberality of a gentleman in town, the children are receiving a complete course of instruction in health giving physical exercises, Mr Hornibrook is the teacher. He is exceedingly kind to the children, patient, painstaking, and absolutely competent to give the best exercises adapted for the physical culture and healthy development of each child. Your Committee are satisfied that the parents are most heartily grateful to the gentleman who is bearing the cost of this training, and making a free gift of it to the school. The ministers in town are giving a short Bible lesson to the children four mornings a week, and we trust the parents will heartily support this movement, and direct their children to attend.

After referring to the new regulations re secondary education and the expenditure on the school during the year, the report continues:—

The prevailing epidemic of scarlet fever has scarcely touched the Hampstead School district, but notwithstanding that, many parents seem to be reluctant to send their children to school just at present. We have earnestly to assure the parents that the headmaster and teachers, and members of Committee appointed for the purpose, have watched most carefully from day to day the health of the children attending school. The doctors have been interviewed from time to time, and their advice and guidance sought. We hope the parents will send all children as usual, excepting those who have suffered from recent illness, or who may be on the sick list at present. If the attendance is seriously affected, it causes loss and inconvenience, and may lead to the temporary closing of the school. Mrs Crosby has thoroughly disinfected the schoolhouse and other buildings, and we are satisfied that they are in a thoroughly healthful and satisfactory condition. We have thus given an account of our stewardship, and if you are willing to entrust the interests of the school to our care for another year, we will do the best we can for all parties concerned. About 20 of our boys have attended the woodwork classes under Mr Sandford, and have learned a great deal that will be most useful in after life. This is a branch of practical education that ought to be heartily encouraged. About 40 boys have joined the cadet corps, and are receiving drill instruction from the masters. They were inspected by Major Loveday and complimented on the progress they had made.

The report concludes with an acknowledgement of the services of the Secretary, Mr A. C. Hardy, and the good work of the caretaker Mrs Crosby.

The balance sheet for the year showed a credit in hand of £22 9s 8d.

[Owing to pressure on our space we have been compelled to slightly condense the above report.]

HINDS.

At the householders meeting on Monday evening the following gentlemen were elected a Committee:—Messrs P. Daly, J. M. Hampton, D. McKenzie, W. K. Rennie, A. Stewart, C. Hales, and H. Wills.

RUAPUNA.

At the annual meeting of householders at Ruapuna the following were elected a School Committee:—Messrs Jaine, Howden, Foster, Bennett, and W. Doyle. Mr Chas. Jaine was re elected chairman.

WINCHMORE.

At the meeting of householders for the Winchmore School district the following were elected a Committee for the ensuing year:—Messrs Geo. Robertson, J. Glassey, D. McKay, P. Hansen, C. Capon, F. Capon, J. Johnstone. Mr Geo. Robertson was elected chairman.

NEWLANDS.

At the annual meeting of householders held at Newlands on Monday there was a poor attendance. Mr Percy Jones was voted to the chair, and after reading the balance sheet the following were elected a Committee for the coming year:—Messrs F. Jones, F. Bennison, J. Clucas, J. Lloyd and C. Pearce. At the Committee meeting held afterwards Mr Percy Jones was re-elected chairman.

HIGHBANK.

The following gentlemen were elected as a Committee for the Highbank school district:—John Driscoll (chairman), re-elected; Robert Crawford (secretary), F. Richards, C. W. Anderson, H. Bond, J. Gilpin, T. M'Carten. At the close of the householders meeting a resolution was carried that the Government ought to amend the Act with the view of electing future Committees from the electoral roll, as all adults are contributing to the education of the children.

SEAFIELD.

At the annual meeting of householders at Seafield, Mr J. Bruce in the chair, the Inspector's report was read, and considered satisfactory. The balance sheet was also read, and favourably commented upon. A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman was proposed by Mr Blunden, seconded by Mr F Blunden, and unanimously carried, and a vote of thanks to Mr Mulligan, proposed by Mr Blunden, and seconded by Mr Bruce was also carried. It was resolved to recommend Mr Mulligan permanently as teacher of the Seafield school. Messrs Bruce Blunden, Gregory, Todd, and Lamb were elected as a committee for the ensuing year and Mr Bruce was subsequently re-elected chairman of committee.

MOUNT SOMERS.

The members of the Committee were the only householders present, and it was decided to postpone the meeting.

DROMORE.

More than the usual amount of interest was shown in the election, and there was a good attendance of householders. The following were elected members of the Committee for the ensuing year:—Messrs P. Hanrahan, T. Doig, M. Kisane, J. Elliott, W. Syme, F. Blackburn and J. Blackburn. At the subsequent meeting of the new Committee Mr Eliott was elected chairman. On account of an outbreak of scarlatina it was decided to at once close the school until further notice, and to have the building thoroughly fumigated.

SOUTH RAKAIA.

The meeting of householders was only fairly well attended. On the motion of Mr Liddy, Mr C. A. C. Hardy was voted to the chair.

Mr Liddy read the balance sheet, which showed that £45) 18s 4d had been received and disbursed for salaries. The year commenced with an incidental credit of £3 15s, and £19 9s 9d had been received from the Board and 14s 6d from other sources. The expenditure wss £50 5s 10d, leaving a credit balance of £6 13s 5d. Against this the liabilities were £6 18s 2d.

Mr Gee read the Committee's annual report, and the Chairman said it was very satisfactory. The Committee were congratulated on their finances The Inspector's report was read and considered very satisfactory.

On the motion of Mr Liddy a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the teaching staff.

The Chairman spoke at length on the visit to the fleet, and on the motion of Mr. Liddy, seconded by Mr Gordon, a vote of thanks was accorded Mr Lane for his splendid organisation in the arrangements for the visit.

Mr Liddy reported that the net proceeds of the concert were £7 17s, the cash in hand from last year £11 16s 5d, the sale of excursion tickets and amount collected brought the total to £46 15s 8d. The expenses were £32 15s 2d. leaving a credit balance to the picnic fund of £14 0s 6d. The committee received a vote of thanks for carrying out the arrangements in such a satisfactory manner.

Mr Gee moved and it was carried that this meeting expresses its sincere regret at the loss sustained by the Colony through the death of the Hon. Mr Rolleston.

The next business was the election of a new committee.

Mr Haslect moved and Mr Smith seconded that the committee be elected on the Parliamentary franchise.

The following votes were recorded:—J. McLean and M. J. Liddy 24 each, A. Gordon 21, L. Sherriffs and J. R. Cole 19 each, C. Shannon 17, R. J. Gee 16, A. Haslett 15, W. Stubbs 8, D. Edgington. The first seven were declared elected. The usual votes closed the meeting.

At the Committee meeting Mr Liddy was elected chairman on the motion of Mr McLean. It was resolved to meet at the school at 7.30 p.m. on the first Monday in each month. The Chairman and any one member were appointed to sign cheques. It was arranged to extend the present caretaker's contract for another year at the old remuneration.

Ashburton County Brass Band

The annual meeting of the Ashburton County Brass Band was held last evening in the Municipal Chambers. Mr J. Snodgrass occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of members.

The Chairman referred briefly to the fact that the meeting was the first annual meeting of the band, and to the very satisfactory progress that had been made during the year.

The report and balance sheet were read by the Hon. Secretary (Mr H. A. Gates). The former showed that the total receipts for the year had amounted to £232 11s 7d. The sum of £104 11s had been paid on account of instruments and band uniforms, torches stands, etc. The new band room had cost £64 5s 6d; expenditure for salaries and professional services, £24 0s 6d; and sundry disbursements £22 8s 2d, leaving a credit balance of £7 6s 5d.

The report stated that the assets now amounted to £236, being £116 above the amount still due on the instruments, which represents the whole of the liabilities. The sixpenny concerts given by the band during the year had been a great success; as were the open air concerts given during the summer months. Special reference was made to the kindness of Mrs Crisp in getting up a benefit for the band which resulted in a substantial addition to the funds.

The report and balance sheet were adopted, several members expressing pleasure at the satisfactory state of affairs disclosed.

The secretary read a letter from the Town Clerk, recording the congratulations of the Borough Council upon the very satisfactory balance sheet which had been forwarded for the information of the Council.

The election of officers was then proceeded with and resulted as follows:—Patron, Mr T. Bullock; President, Mr J. Snodgrass; Vice-Presidents, Messrs Willis, David Thomas, and the officers commanding the Volunteer companies; Bandmaster, Mr H. A. Humphreys; Secretary, Mr H. A. Gates; Treasurer, Mr McDonald; Auditor, Mr H. H. Fooks; Deputy-Bandmaster, Mr J. Marsden; Band Sergeant, Mr Hodgson; Corporal, Mr Taylor; Drum-Major, Mr Horace A. Gates; Custodians, Messrs Anderson and Terris; Committee, Messrs Donald Leitch, Marsden, and Undrill.

Special votes of thanks were accorded: To the bandmaster, for his excellent work in organising the Band, and bringing it to its present state of efficiency; to Mr H. H. Fooks, the auditor; and to Mr H. A. Gates, honorary secretary.

A motion was proposed that as the secretary had very largely contributed to the excellent results of the year's work, a gratuity should be voted to him, but Mr Gates declined to accept anything of the sort until the Band was out of debt, and the motion was accordingly withdrawn.

The usual compliment to the chair concluded the business.

The King's Tour.

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LONDON, April 28

The King of Italy and the municipality and the people of Rome combined to accord King Edward a splendidly cordial and picturesque reception. The decorations were on a magnificent scale, and were most artistic. The King contributed £10,000 towards the cost. The military display was brilliant and imposing.

The King and the Royal Princes welcomed his Majesty on his arrival at the station.

Replying to an address of welcome, presented by Prince Colonna, the Mayor of Rome, King Edward said he was happy to render personal homage to the external City.

After greeting Queen Helena at the Quirinal his Majesty visited the Queen Dowager Margherita.

Old England's Navy rules the sea
No matter where her ships may be,
Her flag will fly in every clime,
Foremost till the end of time,
Her hardy sailor loves to roam
Upon the wave he calls his home,
While from the cold he is secure,
Taking—
WOODS' GREAT PEPPERMINT CURE.

There is nothing half so sweet in life a life's young dream. Use New Century Soft Rubber Hair Curlers.

The New Century Engraving Machine.

Mr J. V. De Beer, jeweller, of East Street, has just imported an engraving machine, which is rightly named the "New Century," for it certainly is up-to-date. At Mr De Beer's invitation, our reporter visited his establishment yesterday, and was soon deeply interested in this wonderful contrivance. The machine is fitted on a handsome oak cabinet, making a conspicuous ornament in a jeweller's establishment, being finished and constructed so as to immediately draw the attention of any customer entering the shop. The machine has attachments which make it possible to engrave everything that ought to be engraved. It is practically unlimited in its capacity