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ASSOCIATION

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EDITORIAL

The Women's Section did a wonderful job preparing sprays for the 672 Servicemen's graves at Omaka and Fairhall cemeteries on Anzac Day. This year there were more flowers left at the RSA than ever before and this made their task a little easier. In previous years they have often been scratching to get enough. Perhaps before long we may have to look at artificial sprays which are manufactured for the purpose by the Christchurch RSA, although that would never match the hand-made sprays of real flowers. It is also noted that two of our widows trimmed all the grass verges at Fairhall in readiness for Anzac Day. Thanks from all members of the RSA to you two ladies for the thoughtful act. Again we must thank the Women's Section for organising the annual Poppy Day street appeal. Their system went like clock-work and counting the cash, which is always a time-consuming job, this year was taken over by our friendly New South Wales Bank manager, Mr Jellyman. A special thank you to you also. The street appeal netted \$1986.31 (compared with \$1759.64 last year) and the total collection including schools and special donations, brought the appeal total to \$2359.57, as compared with \$2232.29 in 1980.

Specially noteworthy this year was the excellent publicity given by Radio 2ZE and The Express for our request for flowers, support for Poppy Day and coverage of Anzac Day. That's the best support we've had for many years and probably accounts for our excellent results in these three activities. The Express even had a photographer present during our Anzac Day concert. We formally thank the media for their generous support through this Editorial.

The lunch and concert arrangements received many favourable comments — the only grizzle coming from some of those in the main bar area who became impatient while we fed the V.I.P's and old-timers in the Pavilion Lounge. Gerry Hey did a great job of the catering, especially considering the cramped conditions under which he had to work. Ron is thanking the bands in his report, but again this entertainment was terrific and greatly appreciated by the veterans. It is going to be hard to improve next year.

Our traditional Anzac Day bucket collection was another success story with the sum of \$200 being raised. This has been handed over to NZRSA for their appeal to raise funds to build an NZRSA Lodge at Anakiwa. To add icing to the cake, the Ex-Malayan Association donated back the \$60 we gave them for delivering the ballot papers, to be also applied to the Lodge appeal. Thank you, Ex-Malayans, from all members of Marlborough RSA.



WANTED

Volunteers to sell Christmas Draw Tickets, Thursday and Friday evenings.
Please see the Secretary if you can help.

EDITORIAL

The Editor is Paul Brodie
and the sub-editor Allan
Gardiner.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT . . .

Although Anzac Day is behind us for another 12 months, I must make reference to some of the events which took place.

Firstly, all the services throughout the province were well supported by the public and the youth organisations taking part. The contribution made by the guest speakers is greatly appreciated by us all. Most especially we should thank Woodbourne Air Base for once again supplying three speakers who did a splendid job at Kaikoura, Spring Creek and Renwick.

I had the opportunity of showing a little thanks by inviting them back to the clubrooms in Blenheim for the function during the afternoon.

What a tremendous afternoon's entertainment we enjoyed. Our friends, the Orphans' Club, entertained us for a couple of hours and when lunch was finished and the tables started to move back to allow room for dancing — the writing was on the wall for a good afternoon. Jill Robinson's family group was good entertainment too. They should develop into a much sought-after trio. Thank you, Jill. There was a touch of nostalgia later in the proceedings when the "big band" started to play the oldies. It took us back to the time when music was music. They were very good value and I am sure that they would be a big success if they started to move around the country giving the type of performance that they laid on for us.

Naturally enough, the Municipal Band played one or two items for those people in the hall and they were just as good as ever. It was interesting that a couple of the members of the band had actually played for Major General Poananga when they were in Malaya. I saw him go out and have a chat with them later on. His aide had specifically mentioned that he had to be away to catch his plane no later than 1.30pm as he had another engagement in Wellington. What chance did he have though, when Bob Fidler and Peter Callahan started talking about when they were serving with him in Malaya?

The poor Major General finally got away from us at 2.30, which wasn't too bad for Anzac Day. If he should get a copy of our magazine, we thank him for being our main speaker and would welcome him back again, anytime he likes.

My most pleasant memory of Anzac Day occurred after all our members had marched past the saluting base in front of the Beehive. Right at the very back of the parade were two Land-Rovers carrying a few of our veterans who were unable to march. When they came past the Major General the public spontaneously gave them a big round of applause. A very nice gesture.

My thanks to all who helped in any way towards making Anzac Day the memorable one that it was.

Please mark Saturday, July 4 off on your calendar. That day we are staging a Bavarian night in the lounge. The Municipal Band will be supplying the oom-pah-pah for us and it promises to be a good night. All tickets will be pre-sold and a seating plan will be drawn up. Once these tickets have gone that will be it, so I give early advice to get your tickets as soon as they go on sale. For those who want to join in the atmosphere, costumes are available for hire from the theatre people. Come and make a night of it and get a party formed.

We have had one copy of the remits sent to us. These are for the National Conference being held in Wellington on June 8, 9 and 10. They have been on the noticeboard for two or three weeks. I am calling a special meeting on June 4 to discuss any remits that members feel should be discussed before the conference. Some members may feel that a mandate should be given to the delegates before they go, as to the way they should vote.

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1981 Anzac Delegation Visit to Queensland

BY JOHN WALTON

I was privileged to be a member of this delegation to Queensland for 1981. Two couples were from the North Island (Tauranga and Levin) and the remainder from the South Island. The party made their various ways to Brisbane, the North Islanders arriving on April 18 and 20. The South Islanders flew out from Christchurch on April 21. Our group met our leader, Mr Bert Walker, M.P. for Papanui, at his home for dinner on the evening prior to departure and this was a good start to the trip.

A beautiful flight of 3 hours 6 minutes saw us arrive 40 minutes early in Brisbane, but the RSL representatives were there to meet us and convey us to the Ascot Motel, alongside Anzac House in Wickham Terrace, right in the heart of the city.

Having had a good meal on the plane, most of us spent the remainder of the day resting or having a look at the city shops, for there would be little chance later on when the itinerary began.

On Wednesday, the Consul for N.Z., Mrs Hule, gave a reception to the group in the consul's office. This took the form of afternoon tea and biscuits. Then on the Thursday our tour really began. For the first two days it was three visits a day in southern and northern local city clubs, but all seemed to be set with the idea that that was the only meal we would get for the day. So lunch turned out to be a big meal, afternoon tea a substantial meal and the evening dinner at 6.30 was a full four or five-course meal, so it is little wonder the motel didn't do too well in supplying breakfasts to us.

Thursday we visited Darra, Sherwood and Coorparoo RSL clubs and the next day three in the northern suburbs of Gaythorne, The Gap and Kedron-Wavell clubs.

Then came Anzac Day. Up at 3.30am for the 4.15am dawn service, which to my way of thinking was rather drawn out. Each section of the service was timed and if that time had not expired then you just waited in silence until it was time for the next section. Then it was out to Gaythorne where we had been the previous day for a 6am service followed by breakfast and then a quick trip back to the city to get ready for the big parade.

This was timed for 10.15am and we were group No. 36 with an Army cadet parading with our banner, "N.Z. Anzac Delegation." Marching was difficult as we were situated between a pipe band with a slower pace than the brass band which was behind us. However, the cadet was excellent in the manner he kept in-step all the way without any faltering. The people were packed six to 10 deep on the street sides and when they saw the placard saying who the unit was we received a great welcome. Unfortunately we did not have a N.Z. ensign to march with.

At the saluting base, the Governor-General of Queensland, Sir James Ramsay, a Naval man, took the salute and we noticed that the Chiefs of Staff and other uniformed staff did not stand up for every unit, but as we came by with a sharp eyes right and hands across our chests, all rose and saluted. This made our day. There was estimated to be a crowd of 15 to 20,000 and there were over 5000 on parade, led this year by the womens branches of the services, 500-strong. The heat was terrific and during the service in Anzac Square at midday we were reminded of the song that "only mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the midday sun." We sizzled and barbecued.

The service was running 20 minutes late so it was nearly 12.30 when we were able to go back to the motel, there to be picked up by our bus, kindly supplied by the war veterans' home for all our travels and were taken to Toowong (two wongs don't make a wight?) where our leader Bert Walker laid a wreath on Major Heaphy's grave. It so happens that it is 100 years since his death and a plaque, newly installed, gives the history of this man who was the first soldier, other than an Imperial trooper, to receive the V.C. The rules were altered by Queen Victoria on the suggestion and oft-repeated application (it took three years for Heaphy's V.C. to be awarded) of Sir George Grey. We then adjourned to the club premises for dinner and later on two of us

with our wives were "hijacked" by the Queensland P.O.W. Association to their do. Here I was made a life member of the association. We returned to our motel about 5pm and took the rest of the day quietly.

On Sunday it was to the north again to visit Redcliffs RSL for lunch and then a swift trip back to Ballymore Park to watch Canterbury play Queensland. Canterbury lost 22-20 but some of the referee's decisions were booed by all. We then returned north to Sandgate for dinner. At this function our leader Bert Walker took ill and the next morning I was asked to take charge for that day. This was a visit to the two war vets homes, one at pinjarra and the other 30km north at Caboolture where we had lunch.

Then it was to Bribie Island for dinner, a BBQ meal, which was a change. On Tuesday we were due to leave Brisbane and travel west to Ipswich, but before we started, Bert Walker told us that he was returning to N.Z. that day and he asked me to be the leader from now on. I wasn't prepared for this at all, but it had to be done. I hope I made a reasonable job of it.

We had morning tea in the old club buildings, had a tour around the countryside in the afternoon, a civic reception at 5.30 and our meal in the evening at our motel. Next day it was off further west to Toowoomba. Passing over fertile plains, mostly irrigated, and growing all manner of vegetables, we arrived at what might be termed an escarpment up which we climbed to arrive at the garden city, a name well applied. We were in plenty of time and our driver took us to a vantage point to look back at the plains over which we had just travelled. Then to morning tea, which turned out to be a civic reception at which we were welcomed by Madam Mayor (she has been that for 18 years) and to which I replied. We had lunch at Harlaxton, a club on the outskirts of Toowoomba, then a run round the district in the afternoon and a meal at our own motel for which we paid and then were entertained to a social evening which gave us a good opportunity of mixing with the local RSL members and their wives. Up to the time of our arrival we were not aware of what the programme was for April 30 but we were told that we would be visiting Jondaryn, where Queensland's largest woolshed is, and afterwards have morning tea at Dalby, which had suffered serious flooding a few months before. I have a photo of the "high tide" mark in the RSL club which measured 4ft 6in above the floor level. The water outside was 7ft deep! Fortunately, they had warning and were able to get all their carpets up before the water came in, but not so the parquet flooring which was ruined.

From Dalby we travelled south to Pittsworth and then on to Warwick and Stanthorpe, centre of the apple growing district, which is supposed to be the coldest town in Queensland. They made up for it with the warmth of their welcome. It was 17 years since they had had an Anzac delegation. It was also the longest trip we had in one day, netting about 300km, yet Stanthorpe had expected us there at 3pm. Next morning we visited a winery where we were entertained right royally and they even had a special place at the bar labelled "Get Loaded Area." It was this day we learnt that the northern Queensland delegation which was supposed to have joined us on the 26th but had gone "walkabout" because of the air hostess strike, would join us that night in Coolangatta, so it meant some reconstruction of our timetable. Should we go to Boonah for morning tea as arranged, and then to Coolangatta for dinner at 6.30 and then our driver have to return to Brisbane with the small bus, pick up the large bus and return, a trip of over 200km on his own, or should we arrange to have lunch at Boonah, then to Brisbane and then back to Coolangatta, an extra 50km, and so to save our driver we voted for the extra 50km and made plans accordingly. But plans sometimes go wrong! The big bus had not been filled with diesel as it was supposed to have been and we struck not only Labour Day weekend traffic but pouring rain. However we arrived in the Twin City RSL, which is just across the border in N.S.W. only about 15 minutes late. Here was the most palatial RSL we encountered. A circular building built just across the border with over 100 poker machines that were fully occupied, and I mean it. That night there were queues of people for each machine. Next day at Mullimbimby we visited a club where the town population is 2000 yet the club's turnover last year was in excess of \$1m.

Whilst at Coolangatta we visited four clubs in northern NSW at Ballina, Mullimbimby, Lismore and Murwillumbah, and if you can pronounce those names you're better than any member of the delegation. We then visited the Gold Coast clubs of Southport, Surfers Paradise and

Currumbin/Palm Beach, leaving the coast on May 6 for Beaudesert, over the Tamborine Mountains, a delightful trip with beautiful forest scenery and that evening arrived back in Brisbane for dinner at Colmslie, a new club in the southern area of Brisbane. The Colmslie and Beaudesert clubs were both opened on the same day last year and both have excellent buildings — Beaudesert having taken over the former Post Office and Colmslie building new premises.

Thursday was our free day when members had the chance to shop for duty free goods, etc., and in the evening attended the open meetings similar to our district conferences. Friday was our last day of club visits when we travelled about 60km north to Nambour, the centre of a pineapple growing area and where pineapples can be purchased 10 for \$1. We had afternoon tea at Caloundra on the coast then returned for the state reception at the Brisbane RSL club with the state secretary being M.C. for the proceedings and Sir Albert Abbot, CBE, state president presiding. It was informal and other than his welcome to us and a few remarks, and the reply by myself with the presentation of a NZRSA plaque, the evening was taken up in fellowship. On Saturday, although not on our original programme we were invited to the official opening of Pinjarra War Veterans Home, which we were honoured to accept. Marjorie and I were presented to the Governor-General, Sir James Ramsay and Lady Ramsay and the delegation had places of honour in the front. When we returned by bus to our motel, Sid Bradley thanked us for being a great crowd of people whom he had been delighted to have been with. Sid had been a great help to us all. Nothing was too much trouble and he would often ring ahead to let the club know we were running late (something that happened quite often as the itinerary was not always allowing enough time for road conditions, etc) and keeping in contact with H.Q. It was the wish of all members of the delegation, who subscribed to them, that two NZRSA plaques be purchased and suitably engraved and sent to each of our two drivers, Noel Land for the first spell and Sid for the second and longest spell.

During our tour we visited 31 clubs, 2 war vets homes, had two civic receptions, one RSL state reception, the official opening of one war vets home and attended an open district meeting, besides a football match. On May 11 the remainder visited both the races and the trots. It was a very useful and satisfying exercise.

BEER & SEX !!

A bottle of beer a day combined with regular sexual activity is supposed to help prevent heart attacks, an Israeli heart specialist believes.

Dr Mordechai Levin, head of the Heart Disease Prevention Centre at Soroka Hospital, in Beersheba, says there is less likelihood of a heart attack among those who drink "reasonable" amounts of alcohol than among non-drinkers.

Dr Levin also recommends exercise and a lowering of tension and stress for staving off coronary trouble, and says that sex provides the perfect combination of the two.

SERVICE WITH A SMILE

Prester John's column in the "Otago Daily Times" repeats the story of a reader who adjourned with a friend for a beer in a rather unprepossessing pub. "I'll have a seven," one of them said to the barman.

"The same for me," added the other, "and make sure the glass is clean."

A minute later the barman brought the drinks. "Sevens," he said. "And which one of you wanted the clean glass?"

A large woman wearing a loud purple dress and many jewels visited a costumier and asked him what colours she should wear.

"Madam," said the expert, "when God created the butterfly and humming bird He made them of brilliant colours. But when He created the elephant, He made it grey."

Sign in a bedroom of a small hotel: "Please do not smoke in bed or the next lot of ashes to fall on the floor may be yours."

LUNCH AT THE RSA — 12 to 1.30

2 N.Z.E.F. HUNGER STRIKE

The hunger strike of 27th Machine Gun Battalion, 2 NZEF, was no rumour but a fact. It took place in "U" area of N.Z. Base Camp Maadi, Egypt in late 1941 or early 1942. What sparked off the strike was a notice on the Routine Orders board saying that troops must parade and march to their mess to receive the midday meal.

Anyone who has experienced the extreme heat of the midday sun in Egypt will realise how unwelcome an unnecessary this order was. The men held a meeting where the matter was fully discussed and the novel idea of a hunger strike was decided upon. We realised that if we refused to parade and march we'd be crimed for refusing to obey an Army order. So we paraded and marched to the mess but refused to accept the food which had to be cooked and available for us each day. To appease our hunger a food purchasing committee was formed and we pooled all our cash on hand and the committee bought what they could from the canteen plus some stores from sympathetic cooks of other units.

Well, after a week's hunger strike our money was fast running out and we were getting very lean and mighty hungry trying to exist on canteen fare. We were on the point of conceding defeat when a surprising event saved our pride and gave us a victory that I think is unique in the annals of the New Zealand Army.

Our Divisional Commander, General Freyberg, decided to visit 27 Vickers Machine Gun Battalion to review our troops and naturally our CO gave orders for an especially smart turnout for the parade. The General began his inspection and a searching one it was, and when about halfway through and a few paces from myself he turned to our CO and said: "Tell me, are you giving these men enough food? They look half starved to me."

As you can imagine, our Colonel's face was a real study as he replied: "Sir, I will have the matter attended to promptly."

Those of us who heard, sensed victory and quickly spread the news and great was our joy when later that day we found that the contentious routine order had been withdrawn and in its place was a notice informing us that in future troops could make their own way to meals.

— C. M. J. WATSON —

Ex-Royal Navalmen's Association of N.Z. Inc.

Report on 1981 Conference at Napier

FROM MRS TERRY HART

Dear Shipmates,—

A conference sounds fun and of course has its entertaining side, but it is also hard work, educational and really worth the time spent.

Many problems and ideas were aired, solved, deferred or discarded.

There were many changes in the positions of officers with a new president, secretary and committee.

Bruce Bain did not seek re-election owing to the ill health of both himself and his wife Pat. Bruce has been a wonderful help to our branch and we will miss him. Our best wishes for a speedy recovery to them both.

Led by a local band, members paraded to Clive Square for a wreath-laying service. Notable in the parade were a number of Wrens.

The cabaret was held in the RSA and the ladies committee excelled themselves making everyone welcome and happy. While delegates were working the ladies were taken sight-seeing around Napier's beauty spots, Marineland and the aquarium. A delightful time was had by all.

The Napier conference committee are to be congratulated for the high standard of welcome, care and entertainment given delegates and guests and I am sure the thanks of all go to them for making our conference a successful and happy one.

Tired and hungry, the businessman sat down in the restaurant.

When the waitress offered him the menu, he waved it aside. "Just bring me a good meal," he demanded.

The waitress did her best and got a handsome tip. Just as the customer was leaving, she leaned over his shoulder and murmured: "Thank you, sir. And if you have any other friends who can't read, just you send 'em to me!"

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PICTON R.S.A. NOTES

As there is full coverage of Anzac Day events elsewhere, please note the following important dates.

We are to have a visit from Christchurch South which will include a dance upstairs when Des York and his popular group will be playing, on May 30.

These evenings are looked forward to so you will need to be early for a good seat.

Les Evans, the social committee chairman anticipate a lively weekend, so join in and be friendly.

MAY 30

JUNE 27

To our members in hospital we wish a speedy recovery.

—CLIVE M. TAYLOR

PICTON WOMEN'S SECTION

There was a small attendance at the April meeting of the Section, but it was nonetheless very busy, with arrangements made for the Poppy Day collection, helpers to prepare flowers for the RSA cemetery on Anzac Day, members willing to participate with an item for the Anzac night social evening and assistance with the Anzac Day dawn breakfast. Also helpers with the supper at the dance on May 2.

Two new members were enrolled, namely Zoe Currie and Kath Roseveare, and Sybil Phillips was the raffle winner.

Mention was made of Prince Charles's walk along the Foreshore and those of us lucky enough to hear him speaking informally shared our experiences and unanimously agreed that we are fortunate to have such a caring and friendly young man for our future King.

President June Ireland thanked all those who had helped at the very successful shop day in March, also those who were offering to assist on Anzac Day.

June herself was to be seen a few days before Anzac Day working away at the pebble garden beside the clubrooms to ensure a tidy frontage, while Mrs Peter Ashfield and myself at different times assisted our husbands to tidy the RSA cemetery. The nicely painted seat installed by Jim Cook will be appreciated by relatives and visitors. The sight of the colourful bunches of flowers placed around the Cenotaph, with the neatly kept Servicemen's graves in the foreground is ample reward for those of us who accompanied the RSA president, women's section president, our husbands and the Army guard who transported the flowers for us. A small but sincere group.

The women's section members who assist with the serving of the breakfast after the dawn parade do a tremendous job, no little part being the cleaning-up after. But there are a few whose efforts begin even earlier when preparations start the night before and as much as possible is arranged in advance to save precious time the next morning, when these folk are once again first on the job to set things going. A special appreciation for Margaret Frisken and John, Margaret Macdonald and Clive Taylor. On-the-day kitchen stalwarts Doss Fredericks again, Connie McKay, Margaret Charters and new member Kath Roseveare, who all did sterling service on the early shift.

A splendid hot breakfast was once again provided by the ladies of the Waikawa Playcentre and makes the task of the women's section so much easier. The excellent behaviour of the many smaller Cubs, Guides, Brownies and Scouts should not pass without mention and reflects well upon the example of their older colleagues and dedicated leaders.

Many section members were present at the Anzac social evening reported elsewhere and enjoyed the fun; four of us, including Shorty Wilkins, actively participating in items and raising a few laughs. Later in the evening when accepting a prize on Shorty's behalf after she had gone home, our president spoke of the incredible spirit of our much-loved 90-year-old who had shamed the majority of those present not game enough to get up and "have a go," as she did.

Here is one of her stories:

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

By Shorty Wilkins

One morning a friend whose baker calls three times a week, had just stepped into her bath when she realised she had no towel. It was a warm day, so she dispensed with her wrap and had just skipped out of the bath and into the kitchen when she heard a knock on the door. The baker usually knocks, and is called in to leave the bread on the table. Friend called out as usual, then nipped into the broom cupboard under the stairs to wait until he had gone. Footsteps followed her across the kitchen, however, and to her horror the cupboard door was opened and a torch played on the gas meter, beside which she stood petrified and naked!!!

"Oh," said the meter reader, "I'm sorry, madam."

"Not your fault," said friend. "Actually, I was expecting the baker."

That's all for this month.

JOAN M. TAYLOR.

Anzac Night Social At Picton R.S.A.

A fun-packed evening organised by the Sunseekers Social Club commenced with their band playing the N.Z. National Anthem at 8pm and all present stood and joined in singing.

Dancing and singing followed until 9pm when RSA Club President Jim Maxwell read the dedication to fallen comrades with all 300 present standing. The light lowered and the Last Post was played before an illuminated cross by Danny Linton.

The evening continued with various items in between the dancing, singing and fund-raising efforts of colourfully dressed band and club members, ranging from the uniforms of a white stockinged Red Cross nurse, airmen, army, navy, Fijian servicemen and two impeccably uniformed French maids who were collecting the donations and selling mystery envelopes towards a colour TV for the clubrooms. As all the above members are very much male, despite glamorous wigs, etc., they caused considerable hilarity.

At 10pm the Sunseekers organiser, Allan Swann, formally presented the fully paid-for colour TV set plus licence fee to Jim Maxwell, on behalf of the many club members, local business people and individuals involved in massive fund-raising efforts, and spoke of his appreciation in being associated with the RSA, as were other Sunseeker members.

Raised during a recent visit by the Sunseekers Social Club and included among the donations was a generous amount sent by Rex and Hetty Gibb of the Granity tavern, from supporters of our appeal.

In reply, Jim spoke of the tremendous work behind the scenes necessary to achieve such a large target, and assured Allan that the RSA were deeply appreciative of the efforts of everyone concerned in any way, including Mrs Swan. Particular thanks go to Nalder Macdonald for his tremendous help that night.

(Continued on Page 14)

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HORSES TO WATCH . . .

By "Turfman"



Over the next three weeks the following trotters and gallopers should be kept in mind to help pay the bills.

BONNIE DUNLOE is just jumping out of her skin with fitness. The Richmond mare was unlucky to receive a harsh ballot at Hutt Park. However, this may be a blessing in disguise as there are richer pickings coming up on her home track.

BONNIE LASS is another mare trained at Richmond who is well forward for another campaign. She must be a strong local contender in the big events at Nelson.

BANK RAIDER is working in fine style at Waterlea. This gelding should pay his way on his home circuit.

CAPINSAY, if brought north again this winter will make his presence felt at Nelson and Marlborough. He was in good form at the same time last year and ran two solid races at Ashburton.

DUTOIT is bred to trot and his run at Ashburton suggests that he is on the verge of good form. This four-year-old son of Dupreez should be given more than a passing glance next time he faces the starter.

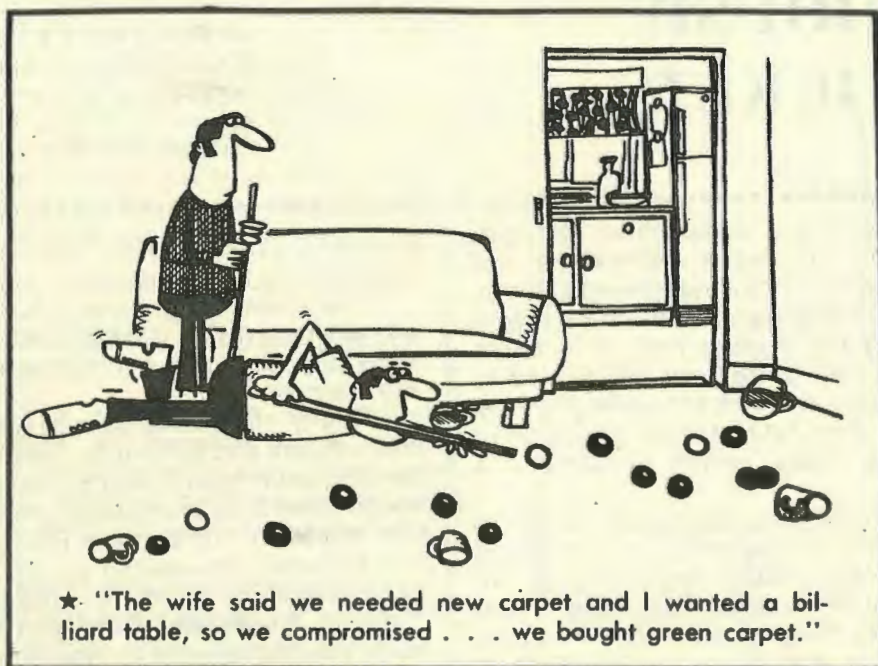
BUNVARO needed worse ground than was offered at Wanganui to show his best. This fine winter galloper is ready to win at his next couple of starts, providing of course the going is heavy.

SERGIO, another that likes bad ground, is ready for a winning run and that should be his next time out. His was an excellent run for third behind Solitaire at Wanganui he can only improve at this stage.

BLACK MINX, a filly from Marton, has been working in improved style now that the tracks have softened. She has run some useful trials over the past few weeks and should be worth following at her next two or three starts.

ALIZA is now ready to produce some worthwhile form. She has been unlucky with the ballot of late, however she is working well and is a useful mare when at her best.

EASTONIAN to win next time out. There was much to admire about his effort behind Thunder Storm at Wanganui, softening tracks don't appear to worry him.



★ ★ ★

Why didn't you report the robbery at once?" an insurance agent asked a woman claimant. "Didn't you suspect something when you came home and discovered all the drawers opened and the contents scattered?"

"Not really," she replied. "I thought my husband had been looking for a clean shirt."

★ ★ ★

Tired and hungry, the businessman sat down in the restaurant.

When the waitress offered him the menu, he waved it aside. "Just bring me a good meal," he demanded.

The waitress did her best and got a handsome tip. Just as the customer was leaving, she leaned over his shoulder and murmured: "Thank you, sir. And if you have any other friends who can't read, just you send 'em to me!"

★ ★ ★

A soldier stationed in a very remote outpost in Malaya had a parrot for a pet and, over the months, he taught it how to talk. One day, the parrot flew into camp excitedly and said, "A woman! A woman!" and flew off into the jungle.

Eagerly the soldier followed it, and crashing through the undergrowth, he managed with great difficulty to keep up with the parrot which flew overhead with cries of "What a figure! What a figure!"

After a good half hour, as the soldier was almost on the point of collapse, they burst into a clearing, and there ahead, the exhausted man saw . . . another parrot. □

★ ★ ★

"What made you put off your wedding for two days?"

"I figured out that my silver wedding anniversary would come out on a Saturday and I always play golf on Saturday."

★ ★ ★

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The evening's programme included further items from some members of the women's section, including a series of funny stories by 90-year-old Shorty Wilkins, who was among the prizewinners in a talent quest. The main prize went undisputed to Margaret Charters and Margaret Elsmore for their "It 'Aint 'Arf Hot Mum" rendition of "Whispering Grass," which brought on a near riot!

After announcing the major winners in the mystery envelopes, the evening concluded with music and dancing. An Anzac night to remember for those many present, including several WW1 veterans and members of the Army Unit and RNZAF group from the Dawn Service.

—CLIVE M. TAYLOR.

ANZAC DAY EVENTS IN PICTON

The dawn service continues to be very well attended with 86 RSA members, including four WW1 veterans, marching to the Cenotaph led by Parade Commander Maurice Phillips. Also in the parade were eight officers of the RNZNVR, headed by O.C. Wellington division, Commander Martin, from the vessel Mako, on a brief visit to Picton. The vessel left later in the day and the voluntary presence of these men was appreciated, as was a unit from the RNZAF Base at Woodbourne led by Corporal Shaney and accompanied by three corporals and one Aircraftswoman.

We were again fortunate to have the services of an Army guard from the Blenheim-based Territorials, with Sgt J. H. C. Bull once more as leader. The guard comprised Pvts W. T. J. Pelevin, R. C. Costello, B. W. Maxwell, R. T. Keenan and

Bugler/LC G. E. Moseley, who played the Last Post during the service.

The assistance given by this unit on this and previous Anzac Days is considerable in many directions and our thanks to Sgt Bull and his men.

Nearly 100 young people were led by their officers and assistants. These included senior scoutmaster Raoul Somers, Officers Watson and Syte and Guide commissioner Mrs Hayes. In his address RSA president Jim Maxwell commented on the pleasing participation of so many young people, many of the smaller Cubs and Brownies having slept overnight at their huts in order to attend at such an early hour. Our thanks to their leaders for their co-operation.

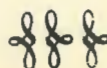
A large number of the public attended, including several stalwarts from Blenheim, and many unable to match were also present at the service. Our thoughts went out to those in hospital and the sick who were unable to be present.

These and WW1 veterans were visited later in the day by secretary Gordon Mattingley and vice-president Peter Ashfield.

After the firing of the gun at 6am by Bert Neilson, who has performed this task for many years, the dedication was read by Jim Taylor, followed by the address from president Jim Maxwell. A short service was conducted by Rev. T. H. Lawrence, followed by the laying of wreaths led by Jim Maxwell, W.S. President June Ireland and Mayor Alan Beaton.

After marching back to the Post Office for dismissal, about 200 returned to the RSA for breakfast.

—CLIVE M. TAYLOR.



GOVERNMENT PUTS 209% MARK-UP ON WHISKY

The N.Z. Government puts a 209% mark-up, in duty and sales tax, on the net cost under bond of each bottle of scotch whisky imported into New Zealand.

For the consumer this represents a 50.5% bite (about \$7.88) of the standard retail price of a 750ml bottle.

This and other costs, from the wharf to the consumer, are shown in the accompanying diagram.

Marlborough Women's Section

Mrs Eva Kennington welcomed members and new members at the social afternoon. Arrangements were made for members to assist at the street appeal on Poppy Day, and for flowers and greenery for Anzac Day.

Mrs Dora Brooks demonstrated the size and way of arranging flowers for the floral tributes which were placed on the servicemen's graves.

Mrs Sandra Foley addressed members on the use and preparation of natural foods and spoke briefly on home cures. This subject probably brought back to most members thoughts of childhood and "Grannie's Cures," and the "internal spring cleaning."

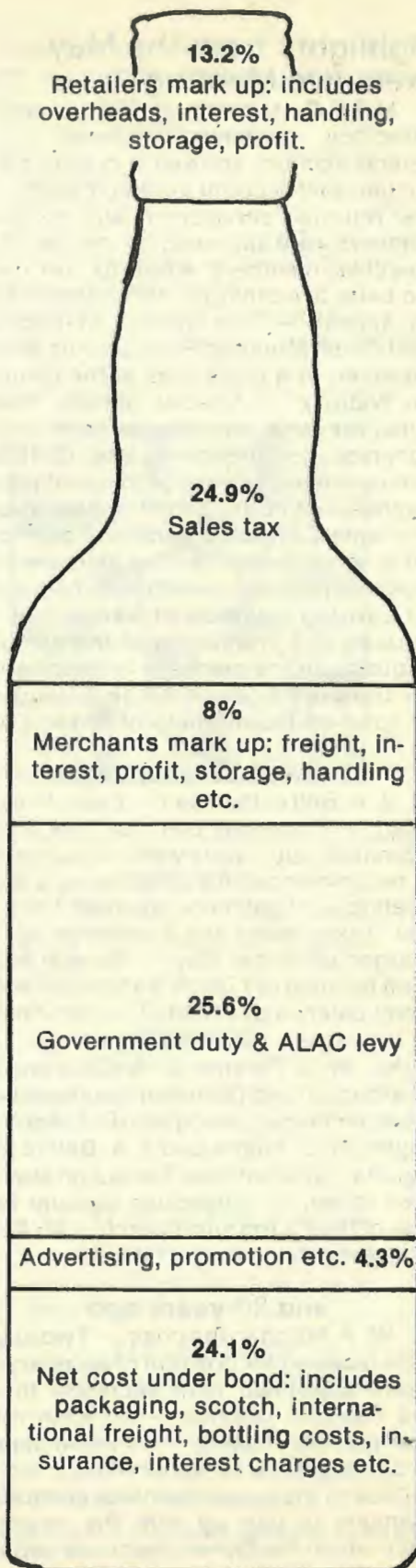
Mrs Kennington thanked Mrs Foley for her interesting talk.

Mrs Kennington extends her grateful thanks to members who helped with the Street Appeal. This was most successful and her thanks for the response for the many beautiful flowers and to members and friends who helped decorate the clubrooms, made the floral tributes and arranged the troughs at the cemeteries. Thanks also to Mrs Dora Brooks who made the women's section floral tribute which Mrs Kennington placed at the cenotaph during the Anzac service.

The girl was complaining to her mother. "I had to change my seat five times at the movies."

"Some man annoy you?"

"Yes," said the girl. "Finally."



Highlights from the May Executive Meeting

M.P.P.C. subscribed \$50 towards our schoolboy gardening scheme — The general account showed a credit of \$4451 and the relief account a credit of \$488 — Five new returned servicemen and six service members were approved for membership — Executive members' wives to sort out the two bales of clothing so far collected for the Fiji appeal — The Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast Mounted Rifle Colours are to be preserved in a glass case at the Church of the Nativity — Special general meeting called for June 4 to discuss remits for the Dominion conference — Joe Griffiths to take over maintenance of the pool tables — Extension of hours permit approved by the Licensing Control Committee, beer prices not to be increased (further increase in cost expected in June) — Notice to be placed in bar advising members of standard of dress required and prohibition of the use of bad language on the premises — Association to ask Borough Council not to issue permits for sport on the morning of Anzac Day.

... and 25 years ago

J. A. Bell in the chair — Executive photo taken — Proposed plan for new building submitted, approved by the executive and to be recommended for adoption by a general meeting — Donation received from Blue Star Taxis being the surcharge on fares charged on Anzac Day — General account debit balance of £76/16/9 and relief account credit balance of £470/0/7 — Ken Yealands on list of new members approved — F. W. Parker, W. J. Perkins, G. R. Cole and P. G. Tizard to attend Dominion conference and these gentlemen, along with R. T. Scott, J. R. Naysmith, C. Harris and J. A. Bell to attend regional conference at Takaka on May 26 — Loss shown on clubhouse account for the year of the Picton sub-branch — Mr Perkins to investigate heating of the bar.

... and 30 years ago

W. A. Hood in the chair — Two applications received for position of secretary — Mr Tizard appointed joint secretary for RSA and Patriotic Council — Mr Bain retiring after present meeting — Mr Hood appealed to all members to support DEC on their attitude to the strike questions and asked all members to join up with the emergency force which the Government was setting up

for the preservation of law and order — Charles Upham, VC and Bar, to be guest of honour at annual ball — Mr Harrison presented with life certificate — Messrs Waters, Hood, Delaney, Tizard and Wanden to attend Dominion conference.

Women's Section Indoor Bowling Club

Our bowling season opened on April 22. Our president, A. Peterson welcomed all, including the women's section president, Mrs E. Kennington.

Five mats were used and all enjoyed the afternoon.

On April 29 the 30th Anniversary Tray was keenly sought-after. This all-day tournament resulted in a win for M. Nelson, B. Boddington, N. Wood and B. Cleaver (s).

There were three kids in the family
... one of each sex.

The club ran a raffle. First prize was \$10. Second prize was a member's cheque for \$500.

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Have you an old RSA cobbler who has moved to another town?

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See the Secretary/Manager if you would like to take advantage of this postal service.

COMMONWEALTH AIR TRAINING PLAN WW2

(Supplied by Christchurch Brevet Club)

Thanks to Mrs Irene Johnson (Canadian High Commissioner to N.Z.), we now have official statistics of the Commonwealth Air Training Plan, March 1940 to March, 1945.

One aspect which will no doubt be of interest to members will be the number of aircrew trained. This was 131,553, made up as follows:

PILOTS:

| | | | |
|-------|--------|-------|--------|
| RCAF | 25,747 | | |
| RAF | 17,796 | | |
| RAAF | 4,045 | | |
| RNZAF | 2,220 | Total | 49,808 |

NAV. S.

| | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| RCAF | 5,154 | | |
| RAF | 3,113 | | |
| RAAF | 699 | | |
| RNZAF | 829 | Total | 9,795 |

NAV.W.

| | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| RCAF | 421 | | |
| RAF | 3,847 | | |
| RAAF | — | | |
| RNZAF | 30 | Total | 4,298 |

NAV.

| | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| RCAF | 7,280 | | |
| RAF | 6,922 | | |
| RAAF | 944 | | |
| RNZAF | 724 | Total | 15,870 |

AIR BOMB

| | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| RCAF | 6,659 | | |
| RAF | 7,581 | | |
| RAAF | 799 | | |
| RNZAF | 534 | Total | 15,673 |

WOAG

| | | | |
|-------|--------|-------|--------|
| RCAF | 12,744 | | |
| RAF | 755 | | |
| RAAF | 2,875 | | |
| RNZAF | 2,112 | Total | 18,496 |

AG

| | | | |
|-------|--------|-------|--------|
| RCAF | 12,917 | | |
| RAF | 1,392 | | |
| RAAF | 244 | | |
| RNZAF | 443 | Total | 14,996 |

NAVAL AG

| | | | |
|-----|-----|--|--|
| RAF | 704 | | |
|-----|-----|--|--|

FLT. ENG

| | | | |
|------|-------|--|--|
| RCAF | 1,913 | | |
|------|-------|--|--|

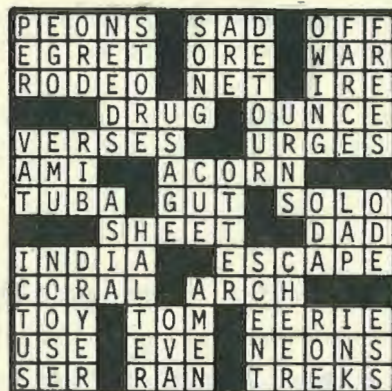
Grand Total 131,553 17

Those who approved the training scheme on behalf of their Governments were:

| | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| W. L. MCKENZIE-KING | (Canada) |
| S. M. BRUCE | (Australia) |
| LORD RIVERDALE | (U.K.) |
| BILL JORDAN | (N.Z.) |

Details of the Air Training Plan were worked out in Ottawa by the following:

Lord Riverdale (U.K.).
Hon. J. V. Fairbairn (Aust. Air Minister).
GROUP CAPTAIN W. L. SAUNDERS
(N.Z. Chief of Air Staff).



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ON PARADE

Servicemen who took part in the Anzac Day ceremony were:

Cenotaph Guard Commander: Sgt A. D. R. Inwood.

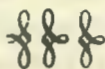
Guards: Cpl D. E. Jellyman, L/Cpl A. N. Webster, L/Cpl E. W. Jellyman, Pte N. A. Jellyman.

Land-Rover drivers: Pte K. L. Gee, Sig. (W) C. M. Dobbie.

The firing party was supplied by 12 Platoon NMWC Regt, led by Sgt C. Timoko.

TAKE HOME JUGS

Faced with a problem of dwindling drinkers, publicans in Britain are looking to new ways of drumming up business. Some have struck on a variation of the New Zealand jug of beer — only they are offering plastic containers of similar size, not to be drunk on the premises, but rather to take home after a pint or two.



A MEAL IN EVERY GLASS

Australians live on booze — according to statistics reported by Melbourne journalist David Ross in the "Aussie Talk" column of N.Z. Truth. Figures just released show that during 1980 Australians spent nearly \$4000 million on alcohol, which is more than they spent on meat, fruit and vegetables combined!

A soldier stationed in a very remote outpost in Malaya had a parrot for a pet and, over the months, he taught it how to talk. One day, the parrot flew into camp excitedly and said, "A woman! A woman!" and flew off into the jungle.

Eagerly the soldier followed it, and crashing through the undergrowth, he managed with great difficulty to keep up with the parrot which flew overhead with cries of "What a figure! What a figure!"

After a good half hour, as the soldier was almost on the point of collapse, they burst into a clearing, and there ahead, the exhausted man saw ... another parrot. □

Ex-Malayan Services Association

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wednesday, March 25, should have been cancelled as far as I was concerned.

Why? you may ask.

Well, to begin with, a meeting at 10am that should have lasted half an hour went on for over two hours. Then at 5.30pm at rugby practice, two people showed up. At 6.30pm I had a meeting with another coach and his team and nobody turned up.

Then to top it all off, at 7.30pm on that fateful day, the time set for our meeting, and in attendance were Murray Brown, Derrick Marsh, Paul Warren (all the way from Seddon) and myself. Total—four. Rather disappointing and although this is the first time we have been unable to get a quorum I hope it will also be the last. So come on you troops, mark that calendar or tie a piece of string around your finger as we don't want a repeat performance.

My thanks to all those who came to the picnic and made it such a successful day and to the guys who delivered the RSA voting papers.

Be ready with those chainsaws and axes as Mike has got on to some wood which could bring in around 300 bucks for the branch and your help will be required.

Just a thought. It's no wonder foreigners have so much difficulty understanding our language when we use words such as "ECONOMY" — which means the large size in soap powder and the small size in motor cars !!

THE PICNIC

About 30 people took advantage of a

beautiful day in the Sounds and had a great day at the picnic. There seemed to be plenty of things for the kids to occupy themselves with and the spit-roasted sheep turned out great, not a sign of burning and cooked right through. The Picton members, true to form, were once again the last to leave. Us townies will beat you one day — we'll bring sleeping bags.

RSA VOTING PAPERS

Ten keen members paraded at 0800 hours on March 21 and proceeded to sort and deliver 565 voting papers throughout the borough. A job well done and the branch thanks those guys for giving up their time in what is a good public relations exercise.

COMMENTS FROM THE SCRIBE

Being of Air Force blue bias, my communication vibes may at times get a bit off tune with you Navy and Army wallahs. I know for certain that something was out of tune on Wednesday night, March 25, at 1930 hours. It was like being all primed and ready for take-off and a MAG DROP steals the show away.

All that aside I must thank you for your supporting votes on election night. I feel somehow I was steamrolled or tank-tracked or something.

EX-MALAYAN ASSN MAY NEWS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Well, another month's gone by and there's only six months to Christmas. It was very pleasing to have 20 members at our last meeting and I thank you for turning out in such strength.

It was also pleasing to see so many of our members on parade on Anzac Day and once again the afternoon's programme was

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very successful under Paul Brodie's guidance.

At our last meeting we received \$60 from the Marlborough RSA which was their donation for delivering the voting papers. This sum has since been re-donated to the NZRSA Outward Bound building fund.

DID YOU KNOW? The origin of the salute when wearing a hat? In days of old when knights were bold and wore suits of armour, the only positive means of identification was to see the face of the person to whom you were speaking. Difficult when you consider that the entire body was enclosed in a suit of armour. To overcome the problem, when a visiting knight wished to indicate that he came on an errand of peace he would reach up and lift the hinged front portion of his helmet (the visor) and reveal his face.

To this day, the action is repeated by bringing the right hand up to the hat band or cap peak.

Some might say then that the salute is "old hat."

NEW MEMBER: Eenie Veevers has joined our branch and we look forward to seeing him in the local RSA. Think about this, over 90 newsletters posted out each month. Financial members approximately 50. So get those subs in pronto.

FAREWELL: It is with regret that we say goodbye to Joe and Gina Waihua. Joe has been posted to Christchurch and we are certainly going to miss him as he was our best recruiting officer in so far as Air Force branch members were concerned. Best of luck to you both and we look forward to seeing you when you return in a couple of years.

**KEEP JULY 4th FREE
FOR A
BAVARIAN NIGHT
WITH THE
MUNICIPAL BAND
IN THE
PAVILION LOUNGE**

The hotel had been happy to receive the young honeymooners. They looked like such a fine, handsome, respectable couple. But suddenly the most violent argument broke out between them. The language was terrible. "Here, here," interjected the manager. "What's the idea?"

"It's her fault," yelled the groom. "She wants to eat first."

★ ★ ★

Why didn't you report the robbery at once?" an insurance agent asked a woman claimant. "Didn't you suspect something when you came home and discovered all the drawers opened and the contents scattered?"

"Not really," she replied. "I thought my husband had been looking for a clean shirt."

★ ★ ★

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THE NEW ZEALAND WAR

BY MORGAN S. GRACE
(Published 1899)

THIS IS THE FIRST OF A SERIES FROM THE ABOVE BOOK WHICH WE ARE SURE YOU WILL FIND INTERESTING AND SURPRISINGLY SIMILAR TO THE PRESENT-DAY MAORI-PAKEHA RELATIONSHIP, COMPARED WITH THE AUTHOR'S OPINION IN THOSE EARLY DAYS.

INTRODUCTION

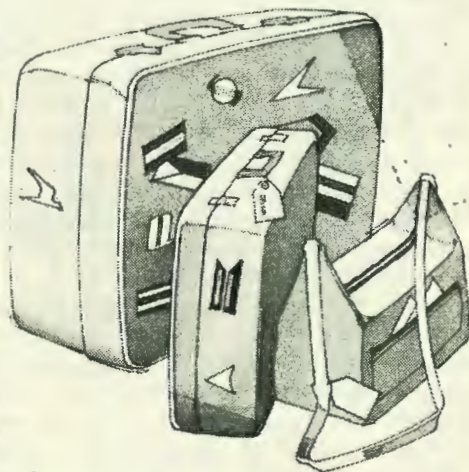
The experiences of the Anglo-Saxon race in its relations with the Maori have always been uncommon. The Maori from the commencement practically asserted his superiority, and in many essentials has justified the assertion.

It will be remembered that in the early trading days a Maori chief always spoke of a White Man as his Pakeha (White Man). The trader's privileges were based on the Maori chief's proprietary claims. The White Man had no inherent rights. His life and property were really at the mercy of the chief. The Maori, being essentially a gentleman, wrapped this thorn deftly in rose leaves. Its existence, however, was real.

It is a fact, that Bishop Pompalier, on his first landing north of Auckland, presented himself in full canonicals, mitre on head and pastoral staff in hand. The Maori surrounded him, flourishing their tomahawks, and deliberately undressed him to examine into the character of his pretensions. When they came to his undershirt and drawers, His Grace the Archbishop made signs to them that good manners dictated restraint of their curiosity. They respected his wishes, but tried on all his garments. As he had exhibited much amiability and dignified sweetness, they assisted him to re-robe and led him to their runanga-house, treating him with every consideration.

The attitude of the chiefs to the Church of England missionaries was characterised by the dignified respect due from great

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LUNCH AT THE RSA — 12 to 1.30

functionaries to each other. The Maori showed themselves above prejudice. This was clearly displayed in a theological discussion conducted in the Auckland district by the Maori adherents of the Catholic and Anglican Churches as to the Church of England claim of Apostolical succession and consequent authority.

A great meeting was assembled in Waikato. The Maori devoted ten days to the public discussion, which was held in the open air. The astute Catholic advocate yielded the honour of opening the debate to the Anglican, as New Zealand was a British colony. He then took two and a half summer days to reply. He had by him a bundle of sticks. He planted the first in the ground, christening it St Peter, and gave a sketch of St Peter's life and works. He followed this up by placing a labelled stick for each of the Popes in historical succession, sketching each worthy's story and, when he came to the period of the Reformation, pointed with emphasis to the break in the Anglican line. The Maori, who cared only for the argument, gave the decision by acclamation in favour of the Catholic Church.

The debate was an admirable instance of the faculty of sustained attention to discussion shown by the Maori in listening; of the power of order and concentration shown by their orators, with the force of conviction at the root of the effort; and of the acuteness of the Maori, already as great in theology as his teacher. The same capacity to excel is seen today in the Maori within the walls of Parliament.

He is unsurpassed either as a political strategist in party warfare, in eloquence if words avail, or in reticence if mystery is likely to forward his objects. The result is, he often holds the balance of power between political parties, and whilst loudly declaiming that the rights of his race are always made subservient to the interests of the white people, has really for a quarter of a century escaped the payment of his legitimate portion of the land-tax, whilst benefitting enormously by the construction of railways, macadamised roads, and expensive bridges leading to his landed property at the cost of the Colony.

So well has the Maori managed editors and public opinion generally that it has been customary to say the Maori has been robbed of his land by the European. I have no hesitation whatever in affirming that the

European has been robbed of his money by the Maori, under the sanction of the most approved, gentlemanly, courteous methods.

It must not be forgotten that the Maori's title to his lands was attained by conquest and occupation. There was no constitutional law to guide the Maori. He occupied by force, and defended his occupation by war. Whatever the aggressions of the Anglo-Saxons, their power to make treaties was always regulated by the constitutional law obtaining in the British Isles.

So much for the statecraft of the Maori. The missionary interpreted the Treaty of Waitangi for him: the Maori took the profit and repudiated his benefactor. In dealings for land with private individuals it is true that the Maori sometimes had the worst of the bargain, but quite as frequently the European found that when he had paid for the land the Maori seller subsidised other claimants to upset the title, and remained in the enjoyment of his tribal claim to the property after he had spent the price obtained for it in feasting his relations. It was from the beginning a case of diamond cut diamond, and as nothing could really impoverish the Maori as long as there remained to him the tribal right to live on and with his own people, the chocolate-brown diamond cut the deepest. So much for the Maori in peace. I hope presently to delineate some of his warlike characteristics.

NEXT MONTH: CHAPTER ONE "MY EARLY DAYS"

A tom cat, which was always out at night, caused the neighbourhood great annoyance because of the noise from its revels with the female cats. The owners eventually had him doctored, but they were disconcerted to find that he still stayed out all night and that the noise continued. So they went to the veterinary surgeon to complain about the ineffectiveness of the treatment.

"Nothing unusual," came the vet's cheerful reply. "You see, he now acts in a consultative capacity."

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CROSSWORD

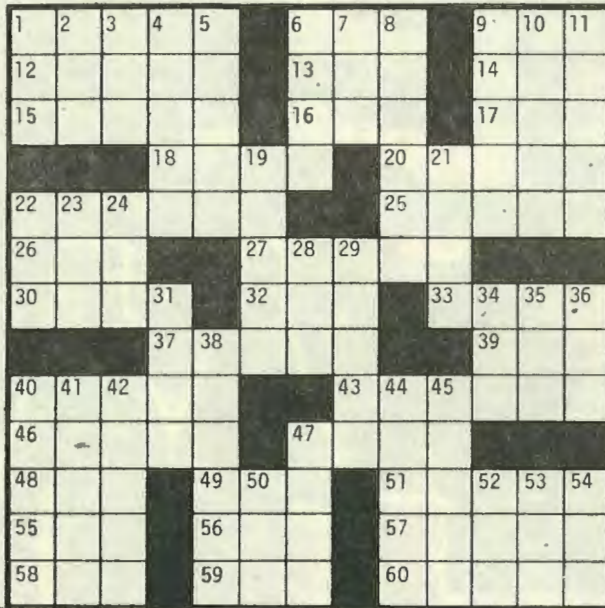
Answer on page 17

ACROSS

- | | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Laborers | 26. Friend (Fr.) | 48. Plaything | 4. Requires |
| 6. Unhappy | 27. Oak seed | 49. Male turkey | 5. Accumulate |
| 9. Not on | 30. Musical instrument | 51. Weird | 6. Tune |
| 12. Plumed bird | 32. Good (Ger.) | 55. Utilize | 7. Plural verb |
| 13. Metal bearing rock | 33. Alone | 56. Night before | 8. Round-about way |
| 14. Armed conflict | 37. Bed covering | 57. Gas lights | 9. Due |
| 15. Roundup | 39. Father | 58. To be (Sp.) | 10. Mockery |
| 16. Seine | 40. Where New Dehli is | 59. Operated | 11. Lets loose |
| 17. Anger | 43. Gain freedom | 60. Journeys | 19. Habit |
| 18. Narcotic | 46. Reef material | | 21. Vases |
| 20. Small portion | 47. Curved structure | | 22. Tub |
| 22. Poems | | | 23. Australian bird |
| 25. Spurs on | | | 24. Kid |

DOWN

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. For each | 31. Continent |
| 2. Self | 34. Harem room |
| 3. California fort | 35. Wrap around |
| | 36. Poem |
| | 38. Bridle |
| | 40. Pulse beat |
| | 41. Rope loop |
| | 42. Not as wet (var.) |
| | 44. Odor |
| | 45. Hooray! |
| | 47. So be it! |
| | 50. Eggs |
| | 52. Caviar |
| | 53. Pen fluid |
| | 54. Worm |



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*"Drink because you are happy,
Never because you are miserable."*

G. K. Chesterton.



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