

# Waikato Gazette

## NEXT ISSUE.

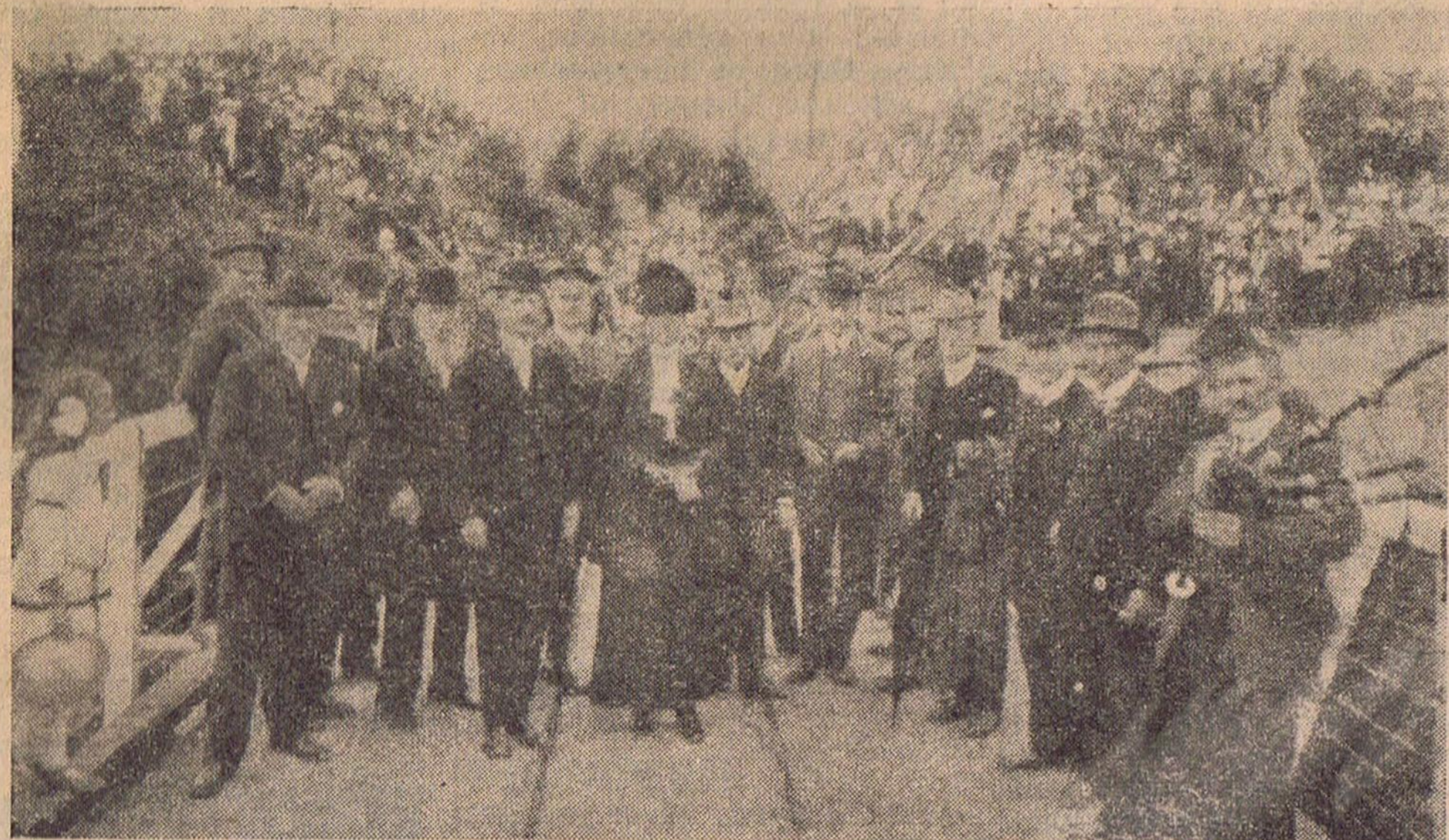
The next issue of the Gazette is due out on  
**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.**

All copy of news items and advertisements  
must be in by  
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8.**

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 1969.

Volume 1. No. 5.

## Echoes From The Past



## JAPANESE HOUSEWIVES 'GO FOR' NEW ZEALAND MUTTON

Japanese housewives are starting to "go for" New Zealand mutton, according to Tuatapere farmer and Wallace County councillor Mr S. L. Kokay, just back from his fifth visit to Japan.

Mr Kokay said yesterday that two years ago New Zealand mutton promotion in Japan was feeble. Only about 8 per cent of the meat was going into domestic consumption, the rest being processed into small goods.

"But today, in the rush hours the Japanese are queuing for the meat," he said.

Far more meat was being sold directly to the consumers, mainly in the form of boned, sliced meat sold in 100-gram packages.

"It is only a quarter of the price of Japanese beef, and the housewives rush it."

In one store he had seen a woman buy a kilogramme of the sliced meat, and through his guide he interviewed her on her purchase.

"She told me that she bought the mutton for her children, because from the first time she

had given them New Zealand mutton they wouldn't eat rice," Mr Kokay said.

### LIONS CONVENTION

He was in Japan with a delegation of 68 New Zealanders for a Lions convention.

"There were 45,000 Lions there from 150 countries. The congress was well organised by representatives of Japan's 76,000 Lions, and the Emperor attended the opening in the Budoken Hall, which held 20,000 people."

After three and a-half weeks in Japan, Mr Kokay flew to Istanbul, and after a two-day break, on to Hungary, which he left in 1912 to come to New Zealand. It was also his fifth trip back to Hungary.

Mr Kokay said that he had noticed a lot less fear in Hungary, but there was still a lot of tension. The people were 100 per cent anti-Russian and 90 per cent anti-communist.

### IMPROVEMENT

Living standards were improving, but a husband and wife still both had to work to provide a decent living for a family, although good nurseries were provided for children to facilitate this.

On visits to Hungary just after the 1956 revolution against the Russians, people had been frightened to speak to him more than twice, but now they spoke freely, he said.

However, their depth of feeling against Russia was exemplified when the Americans landed on the moon, he said. Practically every Hungarian he had met had watched the landing by direct telecast. They were jubilant because the Russians had been beaten.

THE official opening of the Waiau bridge in 1915. Mrs H. Erskine cut the ribbon.

Mr Hugh Erskine was the first settler in the district, arriving here about 1885. To reach the Papatotara side Mr Erskine had to row across the Waiau mouth (in those days the Waiau River had two mouths).

His first home was a flax hut which he built to live in while building a slab house. The slabs came from Colac Bay.

Shopping in those days meant a trip to Riverton, a year's supply at a time. I am sure that no present-day housewife would like the task of ordering a year's supply of groceries now!

Tuatapere is the Maori name for "Beyond the River" or "Beyond the Hills."

## Lower Waiau Fencing To Start Soon

A start on Government fencing of sections of the Lower Waiau river might be made by the middle of August, the resident engineer for the Ministry of Works in Invercargill, Mr L. H. Spencer said recently.

When the generation of electricity starts at Manapouri, the Waiau river level will fall and farmers in the area will lose a natural stock barrier.

Fences will be provided at the expense of the Crown.

Mr Spencer said tenders had been called. He said a shortage of treated posts threatened to hold up the work, but sufficient materials had been obtained.

In the first stage of the fencing programme, the boundaries of three properties on about 16 miles of river bank would be dealt with.

## Sawmilling Company's Merger 'Inevitable'

The Groveburn Sawmilling Company, one of the pioneers of Southland sawmilling, has merged with Marshall and Sons Ltd., whose Winton mill is the biggest and most modern in the province. Logs from the Groveburn forests, covering more than 500 acres of rough country around Tuatapere, will be taken to Winton for processing into planks, and the outdated mill on the Groveburn creek, seven and a half miles from Tuatapere, will be dismantled.

Most of Groveburn's shareholders have taken shares in Marshall and Sons Ltd, which needs Groveburn's timber to meet the demands of its plant. Groveburn tried to merge with four small Tuatapere mills recently, but when negotiations broke down, the company began negotiations with Marshalls.

The merger was merely part of the nation-wide trend to small, old-fashioned mills merging with bigger, more modern mills, one of the directors of Groveburn, Mr J. C. Kirkland, said.

It has been reported that other Tuatapere mills are discussing amalgamation.

Mr Kirkland, who is now one of the directors of Marshalls, said Groveburn had two alternatives if it was to compete in the sawmilling industry: build a new mill or merge.

### OLD-FASHIONED

"Our mill was old-fashioned, and the industry was depressed whereas Marshalls' have a modern mill which cuts logs efficiently and economically," he said.

The merger ideally suited both firms. Over the last year or two, profits had been declining for Groveburn, and it became obvious that the company would have to follow the modern necessity and amalgamate, Mr Kirkland said.

One of the principle shareholders in Marshalls, Mr D. M. Marshall, said he intended further extensions to be made to the sawmill as a result of the Groveburn amalgamation. Some of Groveburn's plant could be used in his mill.

### BIG SHIPMENT

Although Groveburn had made few shipments to Southland silver beech to Australia, Marshalls was going in for export in a big way, Mr Marshall said, and this month 20,000ft

—the biggest shipment so far—would be sent to Japan.

Groveburn Sawmilling Company was formed in March, 1945, after Messrs Kirkland, A. L. Adamson, W. S. Buchanan and the late Charles Francis put up £20,000 capital on acquiring James Williams's Tuatapere mill shortly before his death.

The mill was about the same size as the other small mills around Tuatapere producing about 5000ft to 7000ft of timber daily.

About 1 million super feet of timber a year was produced, selling at about £5 a super foot in recent years, though earlier as low as 5/- to 6/- a super foot.

"When we took over there was a good market for beech, our main product, but in the early days there was little demand—people used red pine," Mr Adamson, a former Invercargill Mayor, recalled recently.

Groveburn's beech and rimu, growing on Maori-owned land, was mainly used locally, though some shipments to Australia were made. "The sawn timber was distributed throughout Otago and Southland by rail from Tuatapere."

"Now there are metal roads, not tramways, and you can get into rougher country with roads. Logging trucks are distributing timber much better than the old railways," Mr Adamson said.

The original owner of the Groveburn mill was Mr James Williams. James Williams bought out Hamilton and built a new mill at Groveburn creek, and it was this mill which was bought in 1945 by the Groveburn Sawmilling Company.

The trend in milling today was toward amalgamation, Mr Adamson said.

"The older, smaller firms are being absorbed into bigger units with modern machinery."

Groveburn merger with Marshalls was part of the inevitable step towards the phasing out of the old type of sawmill.

These old mills have adequately served the country's needs to date but their undue wastage in converting a log to sawn timber can be gauged by a survey taken in Westland in the 1940's. This survey showed that if all Westland's sawmills converted their circular saws to band saws an extra one million board feet of timber could be produced each year for the same intake of logs.

It's unfortunate that this merger should have been at Tuatapere's expense, but once Evans' proposed new sawmill gets under way and exotic silviculture operations commence in the Alton Valley there is no reason why Tuatapere shouldn't once again take the role of a major wood-producing and processing township.

## FORESTER'S NEW POST AT ROTORUA

John and Jan Valentic were recently farewelled by forestry personnel prior to John's taking up duties as a scientist at the Forestry Research Institute, Rotorua.

Both John and Jan hold Bachelor of Science degrees and John graduated in forestry at Edinburgh two years ago.

Since his return to New Zealand in July, 1967, he has been attached to the NZ Forest Service District office at Tuatapere.

## DEVELOPING MARKET FOR TIMBER

It should be known within two months whether the possibility of developing a market for Southland beech in Japan was "on", Mr D. M. Marshall, of Winton, president of the Southland Sawmillers' Federation, said recently.

Mr Marshall said that three shipments of sawn timber had been sent from the Tuatapere district to Japan.

Two of the shipments were shipped through Port Chalmers and one through Bluff.

"We've just been testing the market," he said. "I can't say whether the exports will definitely develop or not at this stage."

### FOREST SERVICE

The New Zealand Forest Service was also planning to test the Japanese market for Southland beech, the Conservator for Southland, Mr G. M. O'Neill, said.

A shipment of logs from the Chaslands area was to be shipped through Dunedin for Japan he said.

The timber would probably be sawn in Japan and used for furniture he thought.

## PONY CLUB OFFICERS

Officers elected at the recent annual meeting of the Western Southland Pony Club were:—

President, L. Insall; vice-president, W. Keast; secretary, Mrs B. Allen; assistant secretary, R. Roff; chief instructor, Mrs A. Smith; delegates to Southland Pony Club, Mrs B. Allan, Mrs D. Hogg, Mrs T. Terry, Mrs A. Smith.

## FIVE LOCAL DEBUTANTES AT WINTON ORANGE LODGE BALL

The Orange Lodge in Winton held its annual debutante ball recently, at which eight debutantes were presented to the Mayor of Winton, Mr K. F. J. Cocker, and Mrs Cocker.

On the stage to receive the girls were Mr and Mrs Cocker, the grand master of the lodge, Mr J. M. Murray, and Mrs Murray, Mr and Mrs J. Ridd, Miss J. Dyet, mistress of the Lodge, and Mr M. S. Wilson. The two pipers, Mr H. Wells and Mr J. Wilson, escorted the official party to the stage.

Among the debutantes were: Jocelyn May Brocket, only daughter of Mr and Mrs A. J. Brocket, of Invercargill, who wore an A-line sleeveless jewel necked gown of tetrone jacquard, which featured a back inverted pleat, finished with a martingale belt at the waist.

Fay McIntosh, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs W. M. McIntosh, of Tuatapere, wore a gown of delustered satin with a pearl embroidered bodice, which was shaped with a rounded neckline and bell-shaped sleeves. The skirt of unpressed pleats ended in scallops showing small rosettes.

Judith Ann McDonald, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs A. C. McDonald, of Tuatapere, chose an A-line gown of cascade crepe featuring a keyhole neckline with long sleeves finishing in a ruffle. Guipure lace emphasised the bustline and trimmed the neck and sleeves.

Ngaire Ellen Baldwin is the second daughter of Mr and Mrs F. E. Baldwin, of Tuatapere. She wore a gown of sparkle crepe with a panel of lace down the centre front. Lace trimmed three-quarter sleeves and a lace bow was the highlight of the back of the dress.

Robyn Ida Curry, only daughter of Mrs and the late Mr F. W. Curry, of Tuatapere, wore an empire line gown of silk velvet, which featured a boat-shaped neckline. Swansdown trimmed the elbow-length bell-shaped sleeves and floating panel which fell from the back waistline.



THE debutantes, with their partners (above, left to right) are: Raymond Brocket, Ngaire Baldwin, David Shanks, Judith McDonald, Jocelyn Brocket, Neil Evans, Robyn Curry, Roy Harris, Faye McIntosh, Cliff Wilson. Without partners (below): Robyn Harris, Judith McDonald, Ngaire Baldwin, Faye McIntosh, Jocelyn Brocket.



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# THROUGH A WET LAND

(Part II)

Overseeing the complete operation of building new electricity transmission lines from Manapouri to Bluff, is Neil Whitford of Winton. He has been with the department since 1948, and transferred from Christchurch especially for the job. I asked him if there were any particular difficulties about his task.

"Plenty of difficulties," he said, "but nothing so far has been impossible. The main thing of course, is to have good men, and in the main we have been very fortunate. Naturally, there have been misfits, but the job soon sorts them out—the heavy work and general conditions—and off they go. Pretty quickly, some of them!"

"Many of the men, of course, are old hands at the game and have worked all over New Zealand building transmission lines. To them, such work is a way of life to be preferred above any other. The fact that this present job can be particularly wet and uncomfortable is regarded by these men as being simply one of the facts of life. Their next job might be somewhere where the sun shines all day—and it never rains," he said with a smile.

Allan Puke said the rain in itself did not often hold up the work (the men get higher wages when it is wet) but rain together with wind and low temperatures became a bit too much at times and work slowed appreciably.

"The thing that really holds up progress is snow," he said. "Snow hides everything and we just cannot find our bits and pieces."

And there are lots of bits and pieces—the completed work will contain about 25,000 tons of them.

The steel towers, some weighing up to 50 tons, will eventually form two independent lines to ensure an uninterrupted electricity supply to the yet-to-be-built Tiwai smelter. The first was scheduled for completion in June, the second by 1971.

From the Manapouri switchyard above the 700 feet deep underground power station, the lines will string across the lake in a 3900 foot span, ascend steeply up the Turret Range and across the Wolfburn Flat. Over the Percy Pass, the lines then run down the Hanging and Percy Valleys to the Grebe River, up the Grebe Valley and across the Borland Saddle in the Hunter Mountains to Monowai.

They then run generally south-east within a few miles of the historic mining townships of Ohai and Nightcaps, across the Southland plains to the outskirts of Invercargill. One line will connect into the national grid at Invercargill before carrying on to Tiwai. The second will continue direct to Tiwai.

### FEW ACCIDENTS

Despite the hazardous nature of the work through Fiordland, Bill McChesney told me, there have been no serious accidents or injuries. Plenty of cuts and bruises, of course, and accidents to vehicles including some major repair jobs—but otherwise the safety record has been high.

The men work a 28-day cycle with 23 working days and five off, during which time they scatter everywhere, some as far as their homes in Northland.

In summer the work goes on from 7 am until 6.30 at night, although in winter they leave the camp at 7.30—not because it is too cold—simply because it's too dark!

Wages are high averaging about \$150 a fortnight. The highest pay goes to the men erecting the towers, some as tall as 16-storey buildings. These men do much of their work on contract.

A feature of the whole job, said Terry Ryan, the cook at Monowai, is that nearly all the men are New Zealanders whereas the underground side of the project has had up to 26 different nationalities at work at one time. Terry has had a full association with the work, having previously been a cook with the tunnel contractors.

Men who build transmission lines have like any other specialists, their own jargon. Words like goat, pheasant, wolf or skunk are part of the everyday language an refer to, of all things, the sizes of different conductors. There are also coyote, dog, zebra and chukar sizes. And there are "go-karts," they "dress" and "hang" a tower, and ensure the accuracy of conductor joints with a "woodpecker," and conductors themselves "creep" or can even "gallop."

And as Jim Barr, the field clerk at South Arm, said with a grin, "There is the usual

crop of nicknames, too. They call me the Kea, for instance, because they reckon I am always peering everywhere." Then there is Slack Daddy, the Fix, the Tourist, Squeak, Munster, Aunt Daisy, Dr No, Eddie Clydesdale, the Mighty Gnome, and a heap of others.

"They call me Ripcord," said another, "because my name is Parascuk."

### PRICE OF PROGRESS

Surveying the line of marching towers and the shining aluminium ribbons which leap across their tops, one cannot help reflecting on the price of progress in the light of the results of the chainsaw on the ancient forests. It has been necessary to cut a 225 foot swathe to allow the necessary clearances for the lines.

But Fiordland will certainly fight back and in time its second growth will heal the scars of man's march. From among the felled trees, Nature's task looks formidable, but skirling around in a helicopter, the gash looks nothing more than the thin line it really is—600 acres in all, only a tiny fraction of Fiordland's vast acreage.

And in time, too, when the stuttering drills and the roaring engines have gone, the forest will revert to its primeval silence.

About the only sound will be the occasional bird, the wind—and the water—and the light crackle of the electricity as it speeds at 180,000 miles a second to the distant smelter. "Pity it didn't take that long to put the lines through," growled the man in the yellow oilskin, as the rain continued to run down his neck.

## YFC INTEREST IN DEBATING DECLINES

There had been a disappointing number of defaults in young farmers' club debates, said a Western Southland delegate to Thursday's Otago - Southland Council meeting held in Balclutha.

The delegate, Mr K. Dunlop, said the Western Southland team had reached a semi-final with only one debate behind it. Mr Dunlop said he hoped district chairmen would inject some enthusiasm into members.

An Eastern Southland delegate asked how popular debating was. He suggested it could be dispensed with. Debating had been steadily declining in popularity in Eastern Southland. The Balfour Club had won the district final without holding a debate. West Otago was in practically the same position.

## More Colloquial Kiwi Language

If you go on a gun booze-roo with your coppers and get shickered, you are now speaking approved English. The colloquial New Zealand and Australian languages are now official.

ROLL UP: Congregate, assemble.

SHAKE: Earthquake.

SHELLA: Young woman, girl.

SHE'S JAKE: Everything is all right!

SHICKER (shickered); drunk.

SHOUT: One's turn to buy drinks, etc.; treat.

SKITE: Boast, brag; one who boasts.

SLING (sling off at): Poke fun at, jeer at.

SOOK: Shy, bashful person, cry-baby.

SPORT: Term of address.

SQUIZ: Look, glance.

STONKER: Baffle; make useless; beat.

STOUSH: Thrash, strike.

STRINE: Name given to comic transliterations of Australian speech; e.g., Emma Chisit—How much it is?

TAIHOA: Wait!

TARANAKI GATE: Gate made of wire strands attached to upright post.

TART: Girl; young woman; sweetheart.

TEA: Commonly used for "main evening meal."

TENNY: Lucky.

TUCKER: Food.

UNIT: Suburban electric or diesel train.

WADDY: Aboriginal warclub; bludgeon.

WAHINE: Maori woman or wife. Colloquially—European woman.

WHARFY (wharfie): Watersider; stevedore.

WOOP-WOOP (wop-wops): Remote outback district or settlement.

WOWSER: Enthusiastic puritan; spoilsport, kill-joy; teetotaler.

YABBER: Talk.

YAKKA (yacker, yakker): Work.

ZAMBUCK: First-aid man, especially at public gatherings.

## OVER THE FENCE

From Peter Daly

The stupidest decision of the month comes from the Dairy Board, in announcing that it will no longer supply newspapers and writers with the monthly news bulletin that it used to, but expects us to draw our information from a special section carried in the "Dairy Exporter."

Apart from the obvious fact that the New Zealand farmer is now bombarded with too many farm journals, each drawing on the same information, but from different angles it has seemed odd to me for some time that two producer boards should carry on publication of their own magazines.

The "Dairy Exporter" was, and is, a famous magazine. It educated two generations, or perhaps three, of dairy farmers and, like the "Journal of Agriculture," was a power in the land.

But all magazines, whether specialist or general, have suffered since 1945, by the growth of communications. In the world of many farming radio sessions and Country Calendar it now seems incongruous for the Dairy Board to go on publishing the "Exporter" instead of disseminating its material through all sorts of publications and media.

The Meat Board has long restricted its market information to the "Meat Producer," its own monthly magazine. It is sad to see the Dairy Board follow this policy.

What happens when you get the same body putting out different information? Power Boards are going to retail natural gas, in some cases. I've been told that it'll be cheaper for central heating than electricity. Now along comes "Power"—a handout from the Electrical Supply Authorities, Electrical Development Association, which says that "nearly always electricity is much cheaper than gas for domestic use and still will be even when natural gas is available."

"For industrial use, each application has to be individually investigated as bulk supply charges for gas and electricity vary greatly."

Who's right, and when?

The Minister of Agriculture, Mr B. E. Talboys, gave his political friends a good birds-eye view of what's going on in agriculture, when he addressed the National Party's conference this week at Wellington. Those who were there heard a reminder that when Somes Island's new maximum security quarantine station is finished, we will have the best setup in the world for introducing new breeds of animals, and at the same time making sure we don't get foot and mouth disease as well.

Sheepfarmers (who really can't afford to) cut down on fertiliser while dairy farmers don't, when both classes of farmer are hit by lower returns. That seems to be the lesson from the intriguing paragraph from the Department of Agriculture's report, quoted below.

"Fertiliser Use. For the year ended June 30, 1968, fertiliser production fell by 6.4 per cent compared with that of the

previous year, the respective figures being 1,625,000 tons and 1,737,000 tons. There has been a considerable recovery in use during the current season, reflecting the increased confidence of sheep farmers. At no stage did dairy farmers reduce fertiliser use so severely, and perhaps present purchases are more in line with actual needs. From July 1968 to February 1969 production was 1,160,000 tons, some 18.3 per cent above the figure of 972,000 tons for the corresponding 1967-68 period."

The potentially disastrous fire hazard on high country pastoral land in the South Island is to be discussed at a two-day open forum at Lincoln College on August 18 and 19, the Minister of Lands, Mr Duncan MacIntyre has announced.

The Departments of Agriculture, DSIR, NZ Forest Service, Soil Conservation Council, Catchment Authorities, and Counties Associations, local Civil Defence, Tussock Grasslands Institute, High Country Committee of Federal Farmers and other bodies will participate.

The conference will precede the symposium on watershed management, which also is to be held at Lincoln College and which will begin on August 20.

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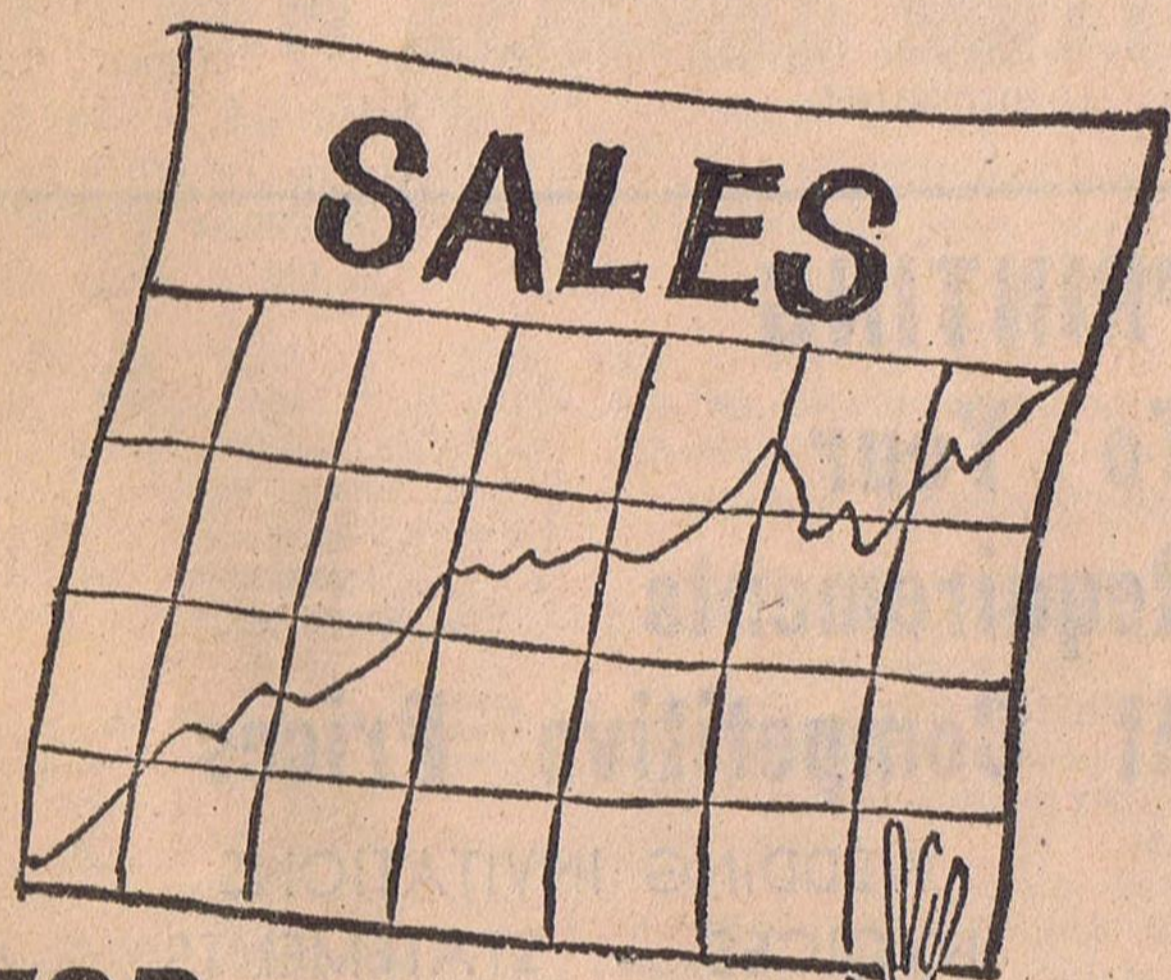
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## CORRECT FEEDING OF EWES REDUCES LOSSES AT LAMBING

With the approach of lambing, feeding of flocks to keep ewe and lamb losses to a minimum would be uppermost in the minds of farmers, said a livestock instructor with the Department of Agriculture.

With our heavy fall of snow this year many ewes have had a severe setback and extra feed will be necessary to bring them into good lambing condition. For feeding ewes the winter can be split into three periods as most well know — tugging to six weeks before lambing, the six weeks pre-lambing and after lambing.

In this first period which begins six weeks after tugging commences only enough feed

to maintain weight is needed. Pre-lambing the ewes requirements go up to 50% above maintenance and ewes bearing twins 75% above. Pre-lambing shearing pushes these requirements even higher. After lambing the ewe needs three times maintenance.

The aim of feeding should be to produce vigorous lambs of an average birth weight of 6-10 lbs yet sufficient to avoid sleepy sickness or exhausting the ewe at lambing or impairing milk production. During the immediate pre-lambing period protein must be increased and this can be conveniently introduced by adding molasses to the hay. A sudden change in diet should be avoided.

There are many factors involved in causes of losses with starvation, misadventure, a poor environment, malpresentation and ewe faults along with mis-mothering being more common than infectious diseases. The research stations tell us that lamb birth weight is possibly the most useful indication of chance of survival. Very small lambs (twins) or lower body weight by higher surface area of body mass ratio have a lower chance of survival in unfavourable weather.

The cause of lamb losses should always be investigated where they are considered excessive and there is no obvious cause. Ewes that abort should be separated from the rest of the mob with the lamb and membranes being forwarded for diagnosis.

MR KIRK

## 'Govt.'s Role Is To Create Opportunity'

The role of the Government was to create opportunities. The role of local bodies was to use them, said the Leader of the Opposition (Mr N. E. Kirk).

Mr Kirk was interviewed briefly while in Balclutha at noon yesterday in the course of a tour of Otago and Southland.

Asked about the possibility of promoting industry in South Otago, specifically a forest industry, Mr Kirk said that in nine years of National Government there had been little action. He was concerned at the absence of regional planning in the allocation of industries.

This created the situation where different areas vied with each other for industries in the manner in which South Otago and Hawkes Bay were competing for a forest industry.

There had to be planning to develop industry to the best advantage of the whole country.

"Unless there is Government intervention, industries will cluster around centres of major population."

The Government refused to accept that a Dunedin manufacturer sending his output north was competing at a disadvantage with North Island industries. This was the reason Dunedin had lagged behind.

Mr Kirk said a Labour Government would institute differential freight rates so that goods could enter markets on equal terms. Labour would also offer specific incentives to get industry established.

Labour would designate development areas and appoint committees to represent local industrial interests both farming and manufacturing.

Bodies such as Otago Council could help stimulate industry. Where under National, such bodies had been denied the tools to work effectively, Labour would supply them.

## Criticism Of YFC Method Of Team Selection

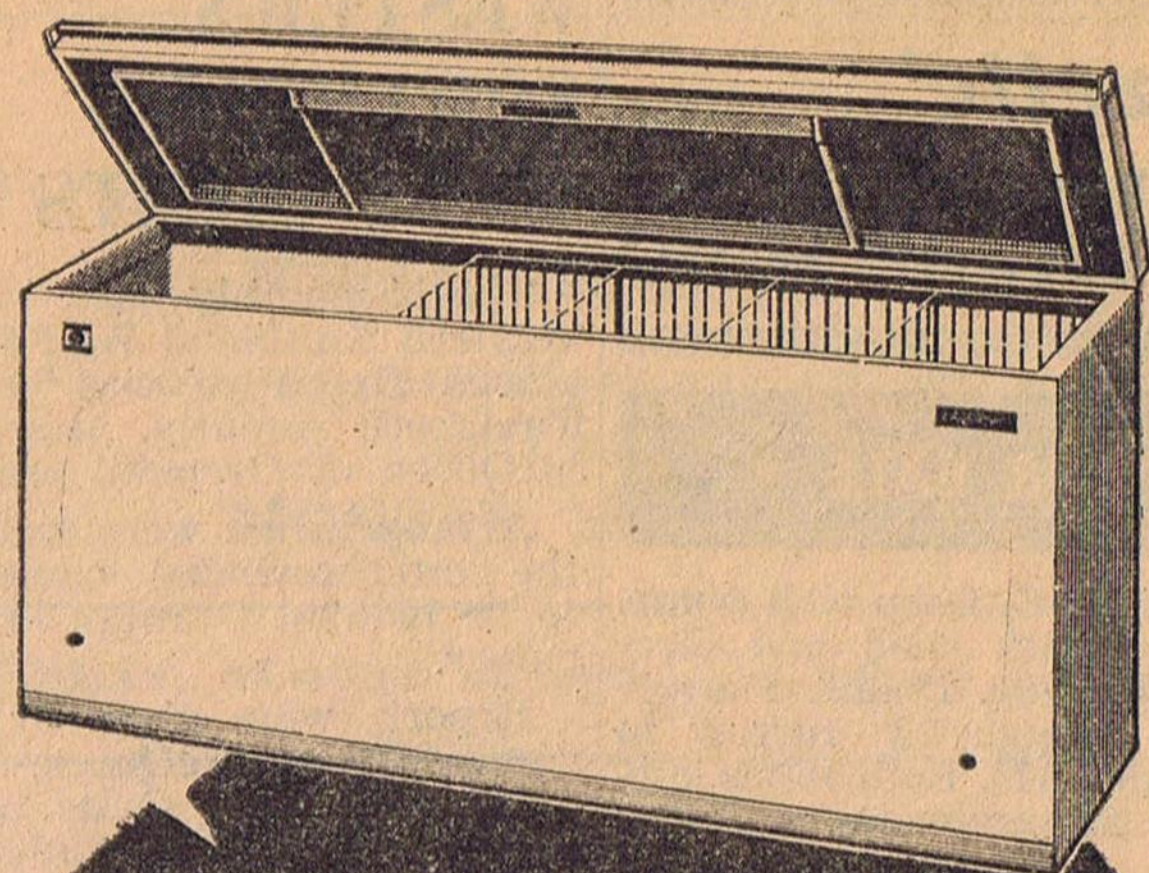
Sheep and wool instructor with the Department of Agriculture in Dunedin (Mr D. Richardson) has criticised the method adopted by Young Farmers' Clubs of selecting teams for district shearing and wool-handling contests.

In a letter to last week's meeting of the Otago-Southland Council of YFC in Balclutha, Mr Richardson said too much time was wasted at district level contests because there was often more than one team from the same club in each category.

"It is my strong recommendation that tuition and selection be carried out at club level and the finalists in each section only represent their club at district contests."

The chairman (Mr G. Neilson) suggested that district chairmen could keep Mr Richardson's recommendation in mind.

A delegate to last week's meeting of the Otago-Southland Council of YFC in Balclutha said he was appalled at the amount of clapping on broadcasts of the Skellerup radio contest. The clapping gave the public a bad impression of young farmers. The chairman (Mr G. Neilson) said the blame lay with the NZBC, who encouraged audience participation in the form of clapping and whistling.



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# WESTERN SOUTHLAND WDFE MEETS

The bi-monthly meeting of Western Southland WDFE Provincial Executive was held at Tuatapere recently. Mrs C. A. McQueen of Orepuki, presided.

Arrangements were made for the interprovincial conference to be held at Otautau in November.

Reports were given by Mesdames C. A. McQueen, J. C. Kane and T. E. Guise on the recent Dominion conference, held in Wellington.

It was reported that Mrs Richards, of Orawia, had been placed second in the Dominion knitting competition. Demonstrations had been given on loose covers, floral art, spinning, hat making and reports on the school for country women held in Dunedin.

Branches had entertained senior citizens, visited Riverton Hospital, collected in their districts for Corso and the Blind Institute, sent Christmas cards to Kew Hospital school, parcels to Seacliff and clothing to Roxburgh health camp.

## ENGAGEMENTS

**Molloy - Whyte**—Mr and Mrs H. B. Whyte, Te Tua, have much pleasure in announcing the engagement of their youngest daughter, Gwenda Joy, to Graham Robert, youngest son of Mr and Mrs A. R. Molloy, 30 King Street, Tuatapere.

**Hampton-Molloy** — Mr and Mrs A. R. Molloy, 30 King Street, Tuatapere, have much pleasure in announcing the engagement of their second daughter Marilyn Joyce to Brian Lory, fourth son of Mr and Mrs D. Hampton, Lillburn Valley, Tuatapere.

**Fluerty-Cleaver.** — The engagement is announced with pleasure of Heather Joan, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Cleaver, John Street, Riverton, and Phillip Lloyd, eldest son of Mr and Mrs A. P. Fluerty, Tuatapere.

**Flint-Townsend.** — Mr and Mrs J. R. Murdoch, Lillburn Valley, Tuatapere, have great pleasure in announcing the engagement of their eldest daughter, Joy Rhona, to Leslie William, the second eldest son of Mr and Mrs W. L. Flint, 234 George Street, Invercargill.

# A Trip To Remember

On January 2, 1969, Robert and Peter McIntyre, Peter Smith, David Robinson, Neville Stronach, Ron Harvey, David ("Rowdy") White and Morris Murdoch set off from Tuatapere for Preservation Inlet to the former settlement of Cromarty and the gold-mining relics in the vicinity. Here is a report of their journey:—

The generosity of Jack McIntyre was appreciated and we left his coach at Bluecliffs and set off on the first leg of our journey about 11 am. After a while Robert and Peter decided to stop for lunch, so the rest wandered quietly on. Imagine the look on Robert's face when he caught us and found us christening the trip with a tot

of rum! The rum was okay though, for we made camp at the Wairaurahiri that night.

Next day, after several unsuccessful attempts by Robert and Neville to ford the Wairau we walked upstream and crossed on the cable.

A short-cut from there was responsible for a lot of walking (in a circle). Rowdy remarked, during a rest that "the wind has changed—look at the clouds." David Robinson replied "Perhaps it's not wind." (Much Laughter). But an hour later we checked with our compasses and found the truth. Then after a common sound, was "how's the tin fish? Which way are we headed?" Not much progress in the right direction that day.

A yearling deer shot by Rowdy White that night was almost completely consumed, and we cooked the remains for dinner next day. In the morning we left this camp at the Angus Burn and set off for Big River, Lake Hakapea; but not far past the Waitutu River the tide halted us at cliffs and we waited several hours for it to go out.

## "HARVEY FLY"

It was during the first part of the trip today that "Harvey Fly" got his name. Ron had brewed an evil smelling concoction to keep the sandflies away, but it attracted blowflies and he was continually followed by a large black buzzing cloud of these. We reached Big River at 8.30 that night wet, cold, tired and hungry; but a few rums soon put new life into us and after pitching our tents we cooked and ate our tea.

Ernie Lock, who was in residence in the Amphib, hut, managed to squeeze four of us and his young fawn into it (9x9). The rum was fairly heavy and we were soon sleeping soundly but next morning the bumps and lumps were apparent in our beds that had gone unnoticed the night before.

Jimmy Tillard and the two Eason boys, who had flown in to the Lake earlier and walked home, left us some supplies so we held a party for Rowdy who was soon to be 21, and we discovered that gin keeps sandflies away. Smells better than Ron's brew, too!

We caught about a dozen king-sized crayfish for tea and with Rowdy's terrific paua patties had more than we could handle.

Reluctantly leaving Big River on the 6th, we set forth on the second leg of our journey. We found scrub so thick in places that we were soon all suffering from claustrophobia, especially Robert who, when in the lead, was noted for his loud "arghs" accompanied by crashing and breaking sounds, although we found the track

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,—I am very perturbed at the Lions recent effort at selling pies, etc, at the beach. I feel that it is a stab in the back for our business people who cater for these people. Lions are supposed to do a community effort—not rob the businessmen of their living.

Why do they not do something with that monstrosity stuck in the middle of Lion Park where all the mosquitoes breed?

What about cleaning up the stinking creek at the bridge—anything. But don't interfere with people's livelihood!

Justice Mac.

# TOP HONOURS TO WAIAU CAMERA CLUB

Congratulations to W. Howden, J. Knowler, C. Moffat and F. Sutherland! Their slides entered in the Southland inter-club colour slide competition, as the Waiiau Community Arts Photo club entry, won the cup and top placing for the first time for the club in the annual event held between the five Southland photographic clubs.

This year the competition was held in the Orange Hall, Tuatapere, on July 12, and Waiiau as the host club for the competition this year, turned on a very successful and enjoyable evening. Members of the visiting clubs were welcomed by Mr C. Moffat, Waiiau club president.

The evening started with a 20min sound slide programme on the Waiiau Valley, its scenery, its people, its varied and numerous attractions. Other sound slide programmes from other clubs followed, as well as an illustrated talk on monochrome photography by Wal Scott, treasurer for the Photographic Society of New Zealand.

Mr Bernard Pinney, of Mossburn, judge for the inter-club competition, was then invited to give his placings. As the competition slides were shown, Mr Pinney commented on them and gave reasons for his placings.

After the announcement of the winner (which was a pleasant surprise to Waiiau), supper was served to round off what was a most enjoyable evening.

## Fahia WDFE

The Fahia branch of the WDFE celebrated its 26th birthday this month, at which the guest speaker was Mrs Eve Poole of Invercargill.

Mrs Poole talked to members about the development of Israel from the early 1920's to present day. As Southland branches of WDFE have chosen Israel as their study country for this year, her talk was warmly received, and she was thanked by Mrs McPherson.

The evening took the form of a pot-luck buffet dinner, with various appetising casserole dishes being supplied by local members.

Members from the Colac Bay, Orepuki and Tuatapere branches attended the meeting, and other guests included Mrs C. A. Agnew, a life-member of the Provincial WDFE, and Mrs M. McQueen, Mrs D. Hampton and Mrs S. Kokay, executive members of the Western Southland branch.

# Plunket Nurse Addresses Waiiau CWI

Mrs B. Bartlett presided at the July meeting of Waiiau CWI and welcomed speaker Mrs Kennedy, district Plunket nurse, who spoke to members on the care of mothers and babies. She was thanked by Mrs Bartlett and presented with a small gift.

Mrs E. Peek reported on the educational day held recently, and also agreed to deliver feeders to Karitane.

Competition results: Feeders for Karitane—Mrs E. Peters 1, Mrs F. McLaughlan and Mrs F. Thomson 2 equal, Mrs G. Sutherland 3; six forcer biscuits — Mrs G. Sutherland 1, Mrs B. Bartlett 2, Mrs F. Thomson 3; single bloom—Mrs E. Peters 1, Mrs W. Keating and Mrs F. McLaughlan 2 equal, Mrs C. Diak 3; cluster—Mrs F. Thomson 1, Mrs A. Erskine 2, Mrs C. Diak 3.

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