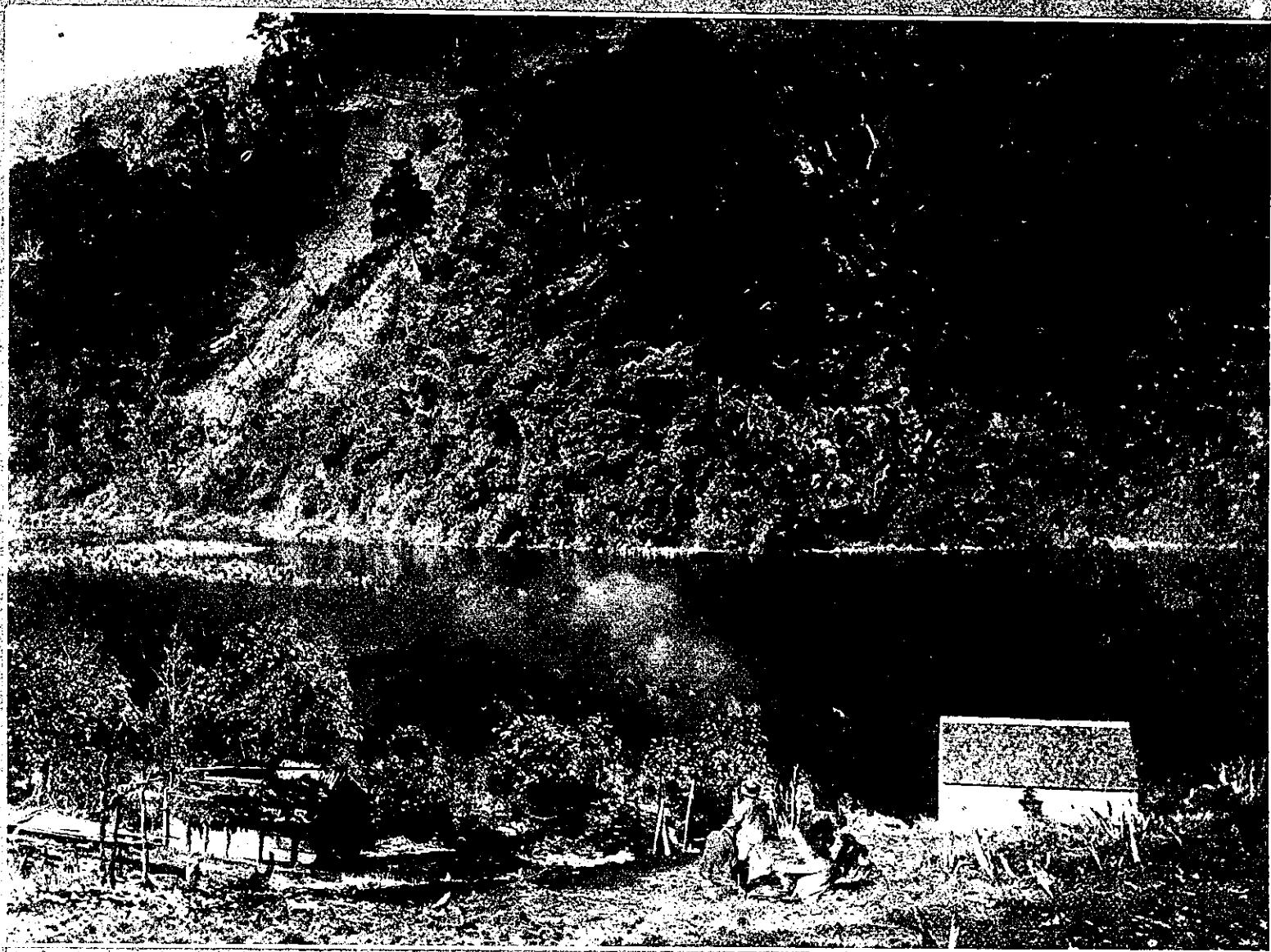


☞ ☞ A Sportsman's Camp at Makau Inlet, Lake Waikaremoana ☞ ☞



—Government Publicity Department

The King's Highway

A MOTORING CAUSERIE

☞ by Sancho

Most car owners, with the holidays just ahead, are thinking hard about the long trail of the year, when, with workaday cares left behind, they roam the countryside for the big outing of twelve months. The first question, usually soon disposed of by most of us, is what sort of a holiday it is to be—a big round tour; a run to some point of special interest, with the car used thereafter for excursions in the neighbourhood and the return home; or a quiet, leisurely perambulation to no very distant areas. Then there is the question of whether our peregrination is to be via a chain of de luxe hotels—or at any rate such hostelries as are at least remote from that description—or whether we shall live and dine *al fresco* and couch at dewy eve on the none-too-soft bosom of Mother Earth.

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One cannot, alas, prescribe a holiday that will give universal satisfaction. To rheumatically joints, the big open spaces of the Tonga-

riro National Park, and the mountain rambles on Egmont are attractive more in theory than in practice. To active youth, on the other hand, the tranquil placidity of a real good loaf in, say, pretty little Oleoroire might pale at an early stage. Where the party is all of one mind the choice is fairly easy, but when it is of mixed inclination more circumspection is necessary if everybody is to return home feeling they have had the time of their lives.

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Motorists who have not done the Rotorua and Taupo run will doubtless be keen to visit those parts, and will be well advised to do so by one of the various routes. For a family tour, with father to foot the bill for everybody, an extended sojourn in the thermal district has a way, however, of being far from inexpensive, unless great restraint is shown in the number of excursions. There are numerous touches of 2/-. 5/-. 7/6 per head, and so on, to see the sights en route, and the sum

total, multiplied by, say, four may grow formidable long before it is felt that everything worth while has been viewed.

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People in the southern portion of the island have so far failed properly to appreciate the attractions of Te Aroha as the objective of a summer tour. Here there is something to please everybody, young and old, active and lazy. The boys can amuse themselves scaling Te Aroha Mountain's 3126 feet, and enjoy the glorious far-flung panorama over the Bay of Plenty and the Waikato Country. Mother will find the beautiful sanatorium domain, with its croquet lawns and shady nooks in the gardens to her taste. Father will appreciate the bowling green, and the young boy the tennis courts, and everybody will be keen on the bathing and boating in the winding, willow-fringed river. Then, too, excursions may be made to the Hauraki gold-fields region, and the mining areas of the rugged Karangahake Gorge

viewed. Finally, to the south there is quite a good day's outing to see the Wairere stream leap its 360 feet down from the ranges in two great jumps.

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On the East Coast a good holiday ground will be found at Waikaremoana. En route, the fine Te Reinga Falls may be visited—a side run of about fifteen miles from Frasertown on the Wairoa-Waikaremoana road. Mr. Pember Reeves thought those falls so beautiful that when he first published his well-known book on New Zealand, "Aotearoa," he put in a picture of them as a frontispiece. Even today, nearly thirty years later, few New Zealanders find their way to this beauty spot. The road is metalled, and if you are on a motor camping tour, you will feel well repaid by an over-night halt near Te Reinga. Before climbing the hill to Waikaremoana, the power house is worth inspection, and when

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