

purpose. It was at a wedding, and the bride, who honoured a guest by escorting him to see her presents in an empty room, was surprised to find empty cases where she had seen diamonds early in the evening. But few of the diamonds were left. She said nothing aloud, but quietly informed her father of the loss, and as he entered the room to assure himself that the diamonds were gone, he saw a lady friend, his guest, pick up a case holding a solitaire ring, and return the case to its place empty. The woman was invited to an adjoining room,

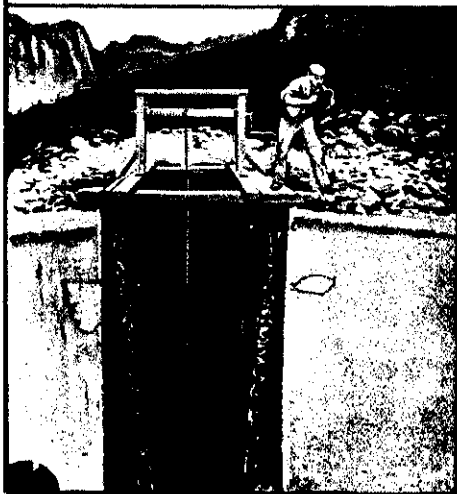
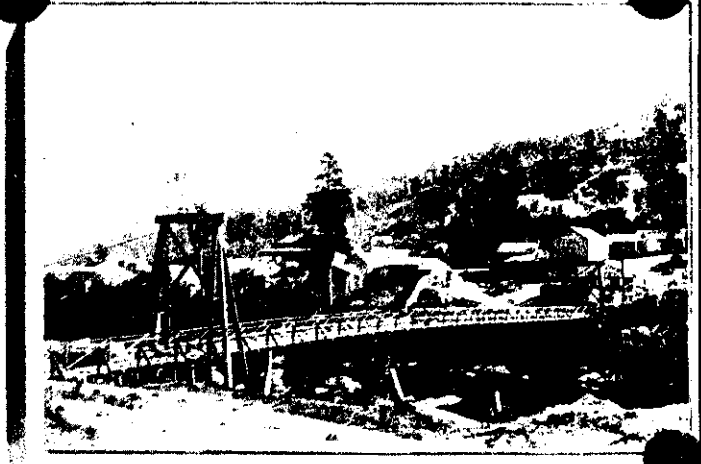
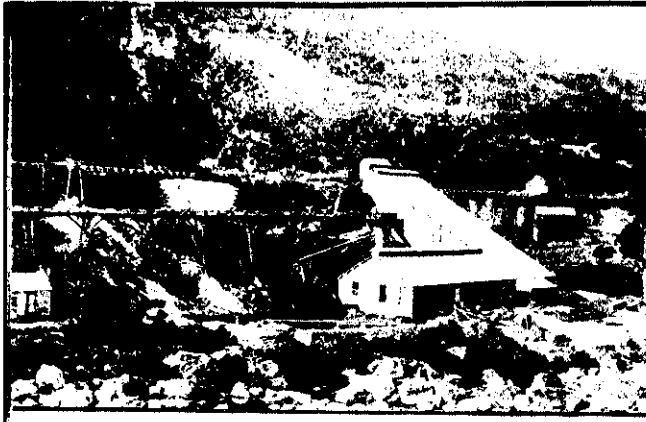
the diamonds recovered, and a promise made to mention no names.

A BRIDE ROBS HERSELF.

Four years ago there was a yet more strange case of robbery in St. Petersburg, where all of the diamonds presented to a bride—who was of the nobility, and whose name the paper suppressed, as such things are done in Russia—were stolen immediately after the departure of the wedding guests. The cause of their disappearance

remained an absolute mystery for two months, when the bride was discovered selling some of them. She had actually robbed herself. She said that she preferred ready money to the diamonds.

Jewellers tell of many small robberies that the police never hear of. An invitation into the jeweller's private office, or the suggestion that the lady has made a mistake in slipping a diamond into her pocket in the folds of her handkerchief, is frequently sufficient to insure the return of the gem, without more being said.



VIEWS AROUND KARANGAHAKE.

[SEE 'MINING NOTES.'

1. Karangahake—Woodstock Battery.
2. Tramway through Waitawheta Gorge.
3. Waitawheta Gorge, showing tram line and dam supplying Talisman Battery.
4. Karangahake, from suspension bridge over Ohinemuri River.
5. At the Winze.
6. Taking a spell.