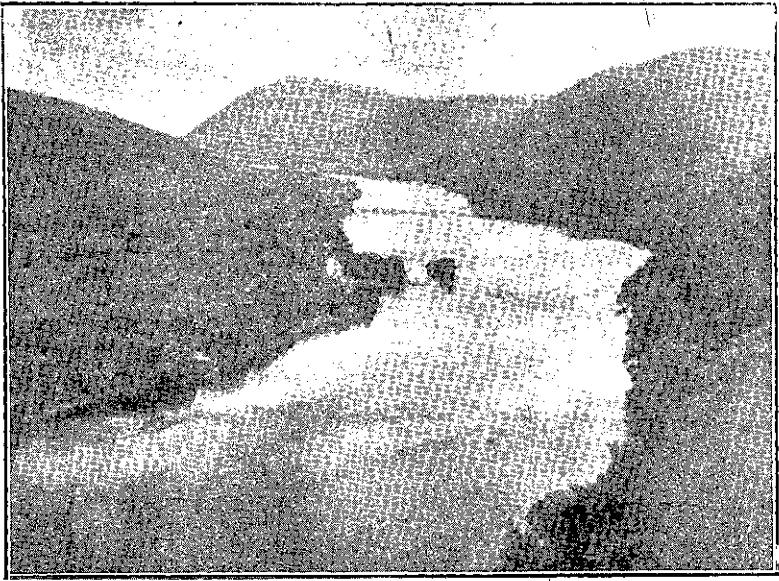


tally. They have nothing to do in the afternoons but dress and pay calls or shop; in the evenings to entertain or be entertained. The moments which are filled in by reading are wasted, for they read the so-called light novels which give no information to the starved mind. What wonder that girls of this class are unable to understand a sensible conversation? No scope is offered them in their narrow life. They marry. Their husbands expect them to know nothing of any consequence, and so continue to starve their minds.

mirable suggestion that we should consider the feasibility of having a system of University Extension lectures given throughout the colony. We have four Colleges, with staffs containing many men of distinction. A consistent study of English literature, a survey of ancient customs, a collection of interesting scientific facts—these and many other things would be of interest to many men and women of our community. And it would not be absolutely necessary that the professors should be the only intineraries. There are many old stud-



E. W. Poynter, photo.

A bend in the Pomahaka River.

I cannot but think that these much-to-be-pitied society girls as well as their more fortunate sisters of the wage-earning class, would be glad of some recreation that would be instructive. Many of them are girls, very capable mentally, who are deprived by their surroundings of anything conducive to intellectuality. After all, the great majority of us require guidance. Very few can take the initiative and forge ahead in loneliness.

Therefore, it is certainly an ad-

ents well qualified to give popular lectures on these and kindred subjects. The question of expense would have to be considered. I have not much doubt that the Government might be induced to help in this matter. Many country districts would, I think, gladly subscribe, in order that some rays of the thinking world might be enjoyed by them. Much might be written on the subject, but space limits me, and I can only commend the matter to your thoughts.