TOURIST AND TRAVELLER. (Continuea,)

The Rev. Clement Houchen, M.C., who was among those mentioned in dispatches at the end of December by Sir Douglas Haig, will return to New Zealand shortly, having been de-clared by a medical board unfit for general duty within a year. He was severely wounded in the head on October 4th, and, though improving generally, has lost the sight of his left eye. Mr. Houchen was vicar at Te Kuiti before leaving for the front.

Two New Zealanders who hold commissions in the Royal Flying Corps are on furlough. They are Captain J. G. Stewart, M.C., of Timaru, and Second-Lieutenant A. M. Hislop, of Hastings. Captain Stewart left (from Auckland) as a Second-Lieutenant in the original Divisional Train, fought in Gallipoli, where he won the Military Cross, and in France. He joined the Royal Flying Corps in April last as an observer, having previously been promoted captain. He qualified a little later as a pilot, and served for some time in the neighbourhood of Passchendaele. Lieutenant Hislop enlisted as a trooper in the Wellington Mounted Rifles. He served in Gallipoli, and after the evacuation was with the mounted troops on the Sinai front. He obtained a R.F.C. cadetship in November, 1916, and went straight to England for train-ing. After obtaining his "wings" he was sent across to France, and has seen much service there, taking part in the Cambrai offensive.

Expert disagree in regard to methods of physical training just as much as doctors do about medicine; and so it is not surprising to find that doubt has been thrown upon the efficacy of the Swedish system of setting-up exercises and that experiments are being made along new lines altogether. In France, Lieutenant Hebert, an officer of the navy, has worked out a new method of physical training based upon his very close study of nature. He abandons the Swedish system entirely, and with it all artificial gymnastics, ex-ercises with dumb-bells, elastic pulleys, and so forth. Hebert's starting point is found among the savages and animals of the African wilds. The gymnasium training, he contends, hardens a man's muscles and does not adapt him to the hardships which have to be endured in modern war-On the other hand, a trained fare. horse has never been put through a gymnasium, while a monkey, which can climb trees, run on all fours and jump about without experiencing any strain, is, according to Hebert, a far better developed animal than the best athlete produced by artificial training. Under Hebert's system, therefore the mon in training. therefore, the men in training are half naked in order to toughen their skins; and amongst the exercises they perform in this condition are tree climbing, running on all fours, lying on their stomachs, rolling over the ground, fording streams and go-ing through almost every kind of ing through almost every kill of animal movement and in all sorts of weather conditions. Lieutenant Heb-ert's method is gaining recognition throughout France, and since his visit to the United States is being considered for the purpose of being considered for the purpose of being experimented with in the training of American soldiers. The Hebert exercises are something more than physical exercises, inasmuch as many of them provide the basis of actual miliinem provide the basis of actual mili-tary operations, such as charging with the bayonet. Agility is fre-quently of much importance as strength and endurance, and it is in this respect that the new system appears to have a great deal to re-commend it. But like so many new



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