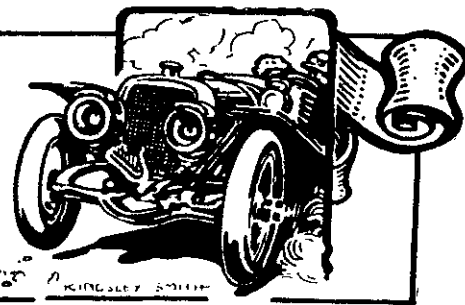


# MOTORING & CYCLING



Photographs of private motorists in their cars, snapshots taken while on tour, or accounts of motoring trips and other items of interest to car-owners, will be inserted in these columns if posted to "New Zealand Sporting and Dramatic Review," P.O. Box 52, Auckland.

Several impudent cases of bicycle stealing have been reported in Wanganui.

The Canterbury Automobile Association is to contribute £800 towards the cost of the ferro-concrete bridge at Selwyn. If the half cost of the bridge amounts to less than £9000, the association's contribution will be reduced in proportion.

Messrs. Souter and Tuffin, of Palmerston North, had the misfortune to lose a new motor car one evening recently under peculiar circumstances. While travelling slowly down the Wangaehu hill the electric lights failed to light up properly, and the car was stopped at the bottom of the hill. While the driver was making an investigation the engine by some means or other back-fired, and the car was totally destroyed. The machine was insured for £385.

Among those who have rendered worthy service in Auckland during the war period is Mr. A. A. Martin, Volunteer Motor Officer, whose portrait is reproduced herewith. Mr. Martin was quick to recognise the deserving assistance that could be given to returned sick and wounded soldiers upon their arrival in the Dominion after service abroad by placing motor cars at their disposal for the purpose of conveying them to the hospital and to their homes without delay and with the maximum of comfort. He immediately set to work to organise a voluntary motor corps of private car owners to give effect to his proposal, and some idea of the wide measure of success which has attended his commendable efforts in this direction is to be found in the fact that for over three years he has met every draft of returned men that has reached Auckland both by train and steamer. He commenced his worthy project with a complement of ten cars, and by thorough organisation and keen devotion to his self-imposed task has increased that number to 100 cars, thus enabling the largest drafts of wounded men to be handled with the utmost despatch. Returned men speak in glowing terms of appreciation of Mr. Martin's kind consideration and thoughtfulness in voluntarily taking up this humane work, and so affording them every facility for reaching their various destinations in comfort following their arrival by train or steamer at any time of the day or night. As may be readily imagined, Mr. Martin's work has incurred no small sacrifice, both to himself and to those motorists who have come forward in response to his constant appeals for more and more cars, but, being solely actuated in his efforts by a desire to do honour to the brave lads who have risked everything in their fight for liberty and justice, Mr. Martin has taken a keen pride in his self-allotted task and has earned the everlasting gratitude of soldiers of all ranks and their relatives. He anticipates a very busy time in the future in view of the large number of transports due to arrive during the next few months, and the time if therefore opportune to impress upon all car owners the vital need for their unselfish assistance in a work of supreme importance, as it will be necessary to further augment the ranks of willing car owners in order to cope with the large drafts of soldiers which are expected to return from now onwards at regular intervals. The present members of Mr. Martin's volunteer motorists' organisation have rendered useful service to the drafts of returned men arriving by the Main Trunk trains on Sunday mornings, when no trams or suburban trains are running, while during the recent epidemic the organisation was able to afford invaluable aid both to sufferers and those engaged in checking the deadly disease. Mr. A. A. Martin is also honorary secretary of the New Zealand Branch of the British Red Cross Society, having held that office since its inception.

American airmen have chosen the word "airnats" as their name, an abbreviation of "aeronauts."

The Queen's Drive at Musselburgh, once one of the finest highways in and about Dunedin, is now rapidly becoming one of the worst, complains the Otago "Daily Times." The road is liberally marked with deep pot holes, and the St. Kilda Council is taking absolutely no steps to bring it back to its former fine state. The fact that the road is being "starved" as regards maintenance is generally remarked on by those residents of the borough who used to point with pride to its one-time excellent surface.

A trio who visited Wanganui recently had an experience they are not likely to forget, says the Wanganui "Chronicle." Their business in the town completed, they set out for their homes in Palmerston late in the afternoon. Their motor flew

is one of the largest and calmest bays of New Zealand. It is situated in a fine weather zone, and is noted for its fine weather and absence from strong winds. It would be an ideal base for crossing the Strait, as it is sheltered from the south-east winds and treacherous willy-waws that are so prevalent on the coast adjoining Cook Strait. There is also plenty of flat land available. Sir James Allen, in the course of his reply, stated that as Colonel Bettington was coming out to New Zealand with the object of furnishing a report to the Government on matters relating to aviation in this country, he should be glad to see that Mr. Field's letter was noted for reference when the matter was under consideration. Mr. Field is also urging that Admiral Jellicoe should visit Nelson to see if it was suitable as a submarine base.

At the last meeting of the Canterbury Automobile Association, a let-

motor importers, who, in December last, sent cabled inquiries to a British motor manufacturing company, and to an American motor house, asking the conditions under which each would respectively supply certain cars and suitable spares. In 24 hours a cabled reply was received from the American house offering 5000 dollars' worth of spares upon consignment. The British house took 14 days to reply to the effect that cars and spares could only be supplied on cash payment in London prior to shipment, and demanding to know the minimum number of cars required. In another case an engineering firm instanced a cable quotation at an advance of 160 per cent. received from a British engineering firm for certain engines similar to engines delivered in 1915. The importer found he had to compete against an American engine quoted at 33 1-3 per cent. less than the British engine. The sentiment in New Zealand undoubtedly was to favour goods of British manufacture as against other imported goods, but the fact cannot be ignored that price was generally the determining factor.

The Christchurch City Council's Finance Committee recommended to the Council the other evening that a grant of £50 be made to the St. John Ambulance Association, to be expended in providing the free use of the ambulance for necessitous cases within the city; the payment not to be made until after the close of the current financial year, in order that it may be provided for in next year's Estimates. The recommendation was adopted after an amendment that the amount should be increased to £100 had been defeated.

Mr. G. W. Banks, of Wellington, has been advised that his son, Frank, was killed in an aeroplane accident on January 23, at Dayton, Ohio. Deceased left New Zealand in 1910, going first to England, and then to the United States, ultimately settling at Hibbing, Minnesota. Enlisting in the American Royal Military Aviation Corps, he received his commission. When the armistice was signed he was appointed to conduct a series of exhibition flights from Arkansas to Dayton, Ohio, pending his discharge from service. He intended to visit New Zealand as soon as he was released from service.

A Napier motorist whilst coming towards town via the Breakwater Road had a narrow escape from a serious accident one afternoon last week. As he was rounding the bend between the Breakwater and Coote Road a boulder from the cliff above suddenly crashed right through the hood of the motor car, narrowly missing the driver.

No trace has been found of a motor car that was stolen from the Riccarton racecourse the other day. The car, which belonged to Mr. T. Mercer, of Christchurch, was a Ford five seater. Mr. Mercer had the switch key in his pocket while absent from the car, and consequently he was greatly surprised to find that it had disappeared. The tracks showed that it had been driven south from the racecourse.

Reporting to a meeting of the council of the Canterbury Automobile Association, the Transport and Soldiers' Car Committee reported that during the month of January the soldiers' car had made 20 trips, carrying 159 men, and covering 886 miles. The committee, as the result of a recent meeting of motorists, was now in a better position as regards arrangements for meeting returned soldiers, and the committee was also making arrangements for country members to come into town with their cars to take-home those living in their districts, thus relieving the city members from that work.

## CHILDREN'S RESTLESSNESS.

A feverish and fretful child is a great bother in a household and disturbs the rest of others. Narcotics and soothing syrups should be avoided. Half-teaspoonful doses of Fluenzol (1/8 and 2/8) will rapidly allay feverishness without any injurious effects whatsoever. Health authorities commend Fluenzol.



MR. A. A. MARTIN, Volunteer Motor Officer, who has organised a corps of motor car owners in Auckland and met every returning draft of soldiers arriving by boat or train during a period extending over three years.

[Crown Studios.]

along in fine style till the Turakina hill was reached. There it came to a stop, and not all the combined mechanical knowledge which the passengers had imbibed in Wanganui during the day could induce the car to go either forward or backward. After evening had fallen on the quiet scene, the party telephoned for relief, and the broken down car was towed back to Wanganui. Arrived there, a motor mender got to work, but when—just on midnight—he found that something was still wrong with the works, he declared in language as polite as the circumstances warranted, that he would work no more till next day. The party, who had waited patiently for the car, had no option but to seek hotel accommodation. However, Desert Gold and Gloaming were too much for them, the hotels being full of visitors waiting to go to Hawera in the morning. Being quiet, retiring mortals, they did not worry friends or inquire for a bed in a printing house. Instead, like many others less favoured than themselves, they sought the pine mattress solitude of Queen's Park, and there they slumbered till day-break.

In the opinion of Mr. T. A. H. Field, M.P., Nelson possesses advantages as a seaplane and aeroplane base. Writing on the subject to the Minister of Defence, he said Nelson is at the head of Tasman Bay, which

ter was received from the Minister of Internal Affairs in reply to a resolution from the association regarding new motor legislation, to the effect that he intended to bring down a Motor Bill at the first opportunity, and that he would submit it to the New Zealand Automobile Union and its affiliated associations for any remarks and suggestions they might desire to make.

The Canterbury Automobile Association claims a membership far in excess of any other association of its kind in Australasia. The total is now over 1150, no fewer than 222 new members having been elected in the last four months.

In his address at the annual meeting of the Wellington branch of the New Zealand Association of British Manufacturers and Agents, the president (Mr. James Macintosh), after pointing to statistics of the trade of New Zealand, said British manufacturers apparently failed to appreciate the efforts that were being made to organise and retain that trade in the Dominion. An instance was quoted at a meeting of a firm of

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