

Mr. Albert Bruce, of Thames, has resigned his position as secretary of the Thames Harbour Board. Mr. Bruce is well known in commercial and sporting circles. He is connected with several industrial undertakings on the Hauraki peninsula, was president of the Country Racing Clubs' Conference, and was for years chairman of committee of the Thames Jockey Club.

The Dunedin "Star" draws the following pen picture of the late Mr. Donald Sutherland, "King of Milford Sound": Mr. Sutherland was a well-known figure to tourists. Big enough to fill a doorway; slow of speech, but full of matter when once started on subjects that his self-education had enabled him to master; distant in manner, but fully understanding hospitality as a rite; passionately fond of Nature, and full of resource in the bush or the water; proud—with all the characteristic pride of his Highland race—Donald has been called one of the vikings, and not inaptly. He hailed from Wick, in the north of Scotland. He came out as a young man and served in the Maori War of the sixties. Then he had a turn at the Thames diggings. After that he came south, and started fossicking for gold in the back country of Westland. From gold-hunting he took to exploring, impelled to that life by the beauty of the wild country, and when he saw Milford Sound he was so captivated by its grandeur that he stayed there. He lived by himself, on the flat referred to, of which he occupied six acres; for 12 years, undertaking pioneering journeys. In one of these he discovered the world-famous falls which bear his name; on another expedition, in 1880, he found the pass which has been named McKinnon's Pass. Sutherland named it Balloon Pass, after the mountain by its side.

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A breach by two people in the audience at the Hawera Opera House a few days ago of the recognised action of standing while the National Anthem is being played, was dealt with by the proprietor in a way that will undoubtedly win the approval of everyone. It appears that their refusal to stand had been often recognised, and rightly resented by two returned soldiers, who reported the matter to the proprietor. He spoke to the persons, and on their stating rudely that they would not pay time-honoured compliment to his Majesty the King, he told them that they would in future be refused admission to the Opera House.

Never have the glory spots of New Zealand been more faithfully depicted than in the Christmas issue of the "New Zealand Sporting and Dramatic Review." Secure a copy and post abroad.

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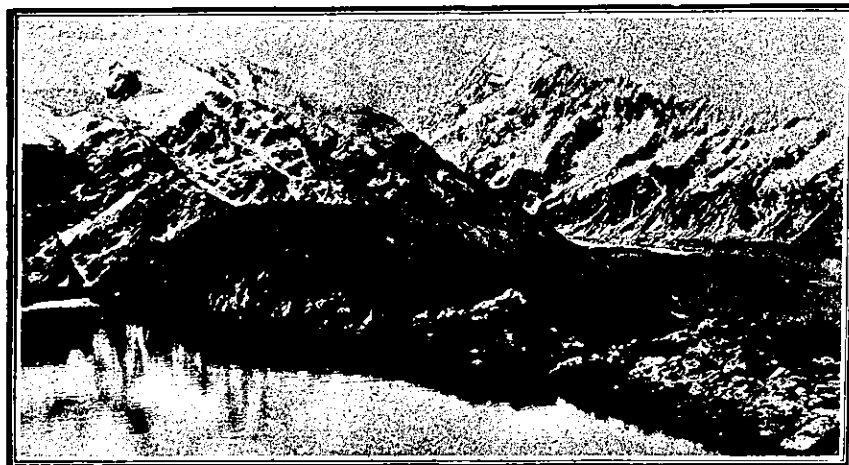
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