General Sir W. R. Birdwood arrives in West Australia on Wednesday, December 17, and will leave Sydney for New Zealand on January 3.

The Timaru woollen mills have been sold by Lilico and McRae to the Auckland firm, Mackie, Logan and Caldwell, Ltd., who take the works over from December 1st.

Mr. Alexander Smith has been presented with a handsome illuminated address by the firm of Leighton and Son, Limited, Auckland, on completion of the long record of over 58 years in their employ. Mr. Smith joined the founder of the firm, the late Mr. J. F. Leighton, in 1860, when he was 11 years of age. A severe attack of influenza in November last from which he has never fully recovered was the cause of the severance of his life-long connection with the firm. Mr. Smith is a native of Auckland, born in 1849. His parents were among the earliest pioneers, arriving here by the Duchess of Argyle in 1842. Besides being the father of the bookbinding trade in Auckland, Mr. Smith is also a veteran reciter, and for more than 20 years was a popular figure on the concert platform and local dramatic stage. He is a keen follower of all kinds of sport, although he has passed his three score and ten. Mr. Smith is one of the few native born that are left who can say they were christ-ened in old St. Paul's Church by the late Rev. J. F. Churton, who was so beloved of early Aucklanders. Mr. and Mrs. Smith will celebrate their golden wedding on the 15th of this month.

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