

- 24839—E. Downey, Waunganu: Umbrella-holder for vehicles.
 24840—P. Ellis, Wellington: Compressor.
 24841—D. Richardson, Footscray, Vic., and R. Gillespie, Richmond, Vic.: Determining moisture in wool, hemp, etc.
 24842—J. Moffat, Christchurch: Gate.
 24843—A. Kilhorn, Middle Brighton, Vic.: Valve mechanism.
 24844—D. and G. Gilbert, Henderson: Pile-driving apparatus.
 24845—A. Prior, Dunedin: Box manufacture.
 24846—W. J. Howeroff, Brisbane, Q.: Clothes washer.
 24847—F. A. Alcock, Melbourne, Vic.: Cushion rail for billiard table.
 24848—R. T. Bickerton, Wellington: Buffer for railway carriage.
 24849—T. I. Yourelle and J. Bellingham, Wellington: Ferro-concrete construction.
 24850—F. H. Trevilian, Wellington: Printing and winding machine for paper ribbons.
 24851—J. E. Hays, Christchurch: Egg carrier.
 24852—A. H. Wright, Dunedin: Indicating apparatus.
 24853—A. H. Wight, Dunedin: Game and advertising apparatus.
 24854—J. F. Macallister, Timaru: Actuating doors of railway carriage platforms, etc.
 24855—W. G. Walden and W. W. Wright, Christchurch: Men's underpants.
 24856—W. F. Robinson, Hokitika: Railway timetable poster.
 24857—J. R. Kent, Christchurch: Upper of shoette.
 24858—E. Hope, Christchurch: Spark extinguisher.
 24859—J. M. Collins and J. Low, Palmerston North: Flax-treating appliance.
 24860—P. A. and C. W. Le Maquand, Auckland: Utilisation of engine exhaust.

Full particulars and copies of the drawings and specifications in connection with the above applications, which have been completed and accepted can be obtained from Baldwin and Rayward, Patent Attorneys, Wellington, Auckland, Christchurch Dunedin, etc.

If the soil is sandy, basic slag is of little use as a source of phosphoric acid, and a superphosphate must be used. Lime (fresh) and basic slag are best for the heavy soils. These items are of great importance in tomato-growing.

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Diseased Telephones.

In Wellington there is also alarm and reporters have been running to the officers of the department for information, precaution and advice. They have elicited one fact of importance, namely, that the custom of the department is to give every telephone attendant his or her own telephone gear, which each can look up after work. Another piece of information is that inventors are always trying to invent some sort of telephone which will obviate dangers of the microbe order. The best of these has succeeded rather too brilliantly, for he has made a machine without a transmitter, that is to say, a transmitter into which it is necessary to speak. But as it generally goes on strike, because it is unable to do what even wireless telegraphy cannot do—dispense with definite transmission of messages into the instrument itself—the invention has to wait among other wrecks for the recognition that will never come. "Apparently," said one of the officers of the department, "for many a day the old style will have to be used, especially for long distance work and subscribers will just have to continue taking the risk." After all, the risk is not so very great, if Dr. Collingridge is to be believed, and the Doctor is an honourable man. Moreover, people can always keep their own telephone clean. By the way, this requires some knowledge. The department has stories of people who, filled with the burning desire for cleanliness, are in the habit of spoiling their telephones utterly. They pour into them their formalin dilution as if the transmitter were a cup. Result—Soaking of the liquid through, caking of the carbon granules, and total or partial destruction of the phone's sensitiveness. What they ought to do is to rub the mixture (a diluted formalin wash) over the transmitter with a cloth carefully.

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