

The Suit with the Prestige

Tailored to your order.

**CROWN TAILORING CO.
LTD.**

132 Manchester Street

MISS E. A. PREBBLE

A.T.C.L.

Teacher of Pianoforte, Elocution, Theory. Pupils entered for Exams. and Competitions if desired. Elocution Classes, Junior Girls, Wednesdays; Senior Girls, Fridays; Boys, Saturdays. Parents, attend to your child's musical education now, while the fingers are pliable, and the mind is free.

Studios: WEBLEY'S and 150 STANMORE ROAD

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

H. B. JONES & CO.

(W. R. CAVERHILL, Proprietor)

168 HIGH SREET (late of 609 Colombo Street)

LOCKSMITH AND TENNIS SPECIALIST

Motor Car Locks a speciality. Prompt service guaranteed.

COTTRELL BROS.

FOUR SQUARE STORES

For GROCERIES, FRUIT and DAIRY PRODUCE

All of the very best. Phone us, we'll do the rest.

Two Busy Shops:

Corner STANMORE RD. & ARMAGH ST.

Phone 41-988

FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL CHAIR

In the "Press" of Tuesday, February 2 there appeared an interesting item under the title "The Function of Libraries."

It recorded that Mr Pitt, Chief Librarian of the Public Library of Victoria, passed through Christchurch the previous day and gave readers a variety of views and opinions held and expressed by our visitor from Australia. He found it difficult to account for the lack of interest in public libraries, for though the cost is often a deterrent, money can still be found for city halls and racecourses. Library progress overseas has been greatly accelerated by the large number of librarians and educationists who have preached the value of good books and reading; but in Australia and New Zealand, he thinks, educationists have not sufficiently championed the public library, nor have the majority of officials and rate-payers fully appreciated the value of the public library as an agency for popular education and culture, in continuing the work of the schools. He thinks the establishment of a free public library service depends partly on individual leaders, who will become champions of the belief that widespread opportunities for the education of the people are essential to a democracy and that this popular and continuing education can best be secured through public libraries.

The chair was unlucky not to meet Mr Pitt, but at least we can say that there is perfect accord and harmony in our thoughts and beliefs and we can but hope that his visit here has been pleasant for him and the results beneficial to Christchurch.

—:—

NEW NOVELS

By OUR REVIEWER

The Cat Climbs. By C. A. Tarrant. This is a thriller that will hold readers of this class of fiction interested to the end. The main character in the story is Peter Dean, clerk to a firm of accountants, diminutive in size but a genius in finance and a highly efficient gymnast. From a series of queer happenings, Peter becomes a "cat burglar" and gathers around him a gang of crooks who with remarkable intelligence bring off a number of robberies, startling to the public and baffling to the police. From the start the story moves quickly to a grim moonlight duel on the shore where Peter is wounded and is saved from total extinction by Iris Belasco, the daughter of a one time bootlegger. What the queer happenings and after events were are best left to the reader who will find plenty of thrill and speculative interest in following them through.

Malta Fever. By Vice-Admiral C. V. Osborne. As may be anticipated from the title of both book

PLUMBING

C. & J. Colville Ltd.

303 CAMBRIDGE TERRACE

PHONE 32-283

C. BARRETT

LADIES' AND GENT'S HAIRDRESSER AND TOBACCONIST

709 GLOUCESTER STREET (Cnr. Woodham Rd.)

All Clippers and Brushes used in Saloon sterilised. Best brands of Tobacco and Cigarettes in stock.

LAWN MOWER SPECIALIST.

Lawn Mowers sharpened and set, called for and delivered. Scissors, Knives, Saws, all Garden Tools. Cycle Repairs and Accessories. Soldering, Brazing, and Welding, etc. Expert Work only and guaranteed.

C. H. BURROWS

284 WORCESTER STREET

MISS TRAILL

Dressmaker

213 Worcester Street

W. NEWELL

COAL AND FIREWOOD MERCHANT

We have the following Coals:—

Abermain, Pelawmain, Westport, Newcastle Kaitangata, Moody Creek, Burke Creek, Blackball.

331 GLOUCESTER STREET.

Phone 35-718.

and author, this novel has a naval setting, the scene being laid in Malta, with a naval officer as hero, the neice of the Commander-in-chief as heroine and a handsome spy as villain. The hero is wrongly charged with and is convicted of stealing valuable plans, but his lips are sealed by solicitude for a scapegrace young brother. The heroine, risking compromise of her reputation at the hands of the villain, obtains proof of his innocence, by which he is reprieved and reinstated. The characters are alive and the interest is well maintained throughout to the natural and happy ending.

Blue Silver. By Victor Bridges. A first-class, full-length, and grippingly-exciting story by the popular author of "Greensea Island," "Peter in Peril" and other famous thrillers. It tells how Richard Arnot, disgraced and ruined through no fault of his own, sets out with grim determination to clear up the mystery, in which he has become involved. His two chief allies, Spider Gull, the young East End boxer, and Jill Shensstone, a most delicious and thoroughly up-to-date heroine, are worthy companion in this desperate and apparently hopeless enterprise. The scenes are laid partly in London and partly in the lonely creeks and marshes of the East Coast, and the whole story reads along with a swing and vigour which never falters from the first page to the last. It has all the lightness of touch and refreshing sense of humour which admirers of Victor Bridges' work have learned to expect.

Housemaster. By Ian Hay. In "Housemaster" Ian Hay goes back to one of his favourite themes, Age and Youth, as contrasted in a story of school life. The Housemaster in question is a middle-aged bachelor. You might call him old-fashioned, but the mind of a boy is an open book to him. He finds himself confronted with a new Headmaster, young, brilliant, and progressive, but "without the first beginning of an idea as to what goes on inside a boy's head." Conflict is inevitable—a conflict in which our Housemaster finds himself handicapped by unsolicited feminine assistance of a charming but embarrassing character.

No Fury. By Francis Beeding. Miss Valerie Beachamp was the sort of woman novelist all right-minded people fly from. She was leader of a small literary society called the Esoterics, and she tyrannised over them so much that they planned revenge, but when Miss Beachamp found out that they had succeeded in making a fool of her, tragedy came swiftly to her former friends. She was found murdered—and each of those friends felt that they were suspected of the crime. Haunted by fear of arrest and by their own consciences they were further terrorised by the murders of several of the members of their society. Not until the last page, however, does Mr Beeding give away the clue to these mysterious deaths, and so we have here a story backed with thrills, which we are sure will delight this author's large public.