



No. 53.

1907 DEC. 1ST

To

1908:

Sep. 30th

1907

December

1. Sun.

In morning walked to Bolla's house & in afternoon finished article on Nat. Hist. Auckland Is. for the "Press". Made arrangements for Castaways boat to be crated and sent to Museum. It was exhibited in the afternoon, on board and £23 raised for the men. Our party subscribed £13. in addition.

Left at 5 pm for Invercargill. []

put up at Albion
Hotel, Posted my
M.S. to "Press" and
after tea had a
stroll round town.

2. Mon

Left Invercargill
at 8 am. There was
a rush for news-
papers at the
various stations en
route so that our
various accounts
might be inspected.
The wreck was the
chief topic, our
expedition being
second. Sent a
telegram to Rose

from Dunedin wh.
Benham & Marshall
left us. Arrived
at Ch Ch. at 10.40
after nearly 15
hours in the train.

3 Tues. Bro^r Claude met me.

Attended to the
correspondence at
Museum, and
developed $1\frac{1}{2}$ doz.
negatives -

4 Wed

Developed balance
of negatives, they
are good on the
whole, some of
them excellent,

Southland Davis

Reilly

Russell has an
idea of sending the
Dundonald relics
to Dunedin, and
telegraphed Mayor.

5. Thurs.

Left by midday
train for Dunedin
Met W.R. Simpson
of Timaru in train
he was returning
from Leeds where
he had been paying
a visit. Met at
Timaru by Town Clerk
& arranged to show
exhibits on return
wrote to Rose in
train and arrived

at Dunedin 9.15. pm.
Met by Mr. Grace
Sec. of Shipwrecked
relief Soc. &

6 Fri. ^{time}
Spent ~~day~~ arranging
exhibits in the Art
Gallery and relics
were on view in the
afternoon. In the
morning I called on
Ada Hall and in
the evening we walked
to St Kilda, along
the beach to St Clair
& back by tram
staying at the City
Hotel. Telegram from
Mayor of Inverc

replied that I would
exhibit on Tuesday
wrote to Rose.

7. Sat.

Saw Bathgate who
asked me to weekday
dinner tomorrow.

Wrote to Rose, Wilfrid,
& Kelly Beale also
to Mrs Waite sending
copy of "Dominion"
with account of the
wreck. After visit
to art gallery went
with Ada Hall to
try over soup &
after lunch took
her to St Clair.
We walked to Castle

Cargill, then along
beach to St Kilda
& tram to City, Miss
Cohen failed to ap-
pear, she was to
have gone with us -
but sent me an
invitation to tea to-
morrow. After tea
I spent an hour
with Benham & then
to Art Gallery at
10. & packed up the
relics.

8. Sun

wrote to Rose. Went
for a stroll in the
morning around
Mornington & lunch
up to dinner at [9]

Bathgates. went to
tea at the Cohens
& found only the 2
girls & Ada Hall in
possession

9. Mon.

wrote Rose, bought
"Diabalo" set for
Claude, a book for
Rose and "Earthworms
& Blow Fly" for self.

Sent copies of Otago
Daily Times, containing
account of week &
Scientific exhibition
to Wilfrid D. Vause,
Nealey, Fanny Bowling
Kelly Beale & Roebuck
Paid hotel bill

£1. 8. 0 & handed
to Grace acc. for
my ex's £4. 13. 6
£26. having been
taken at Art Gallery
Having the morning
at liberty I called
on Ada Hall & we
walked to St Kilda
across beach to St
Clair & home by
train. Sent wire to
Mayor of Timaru
& left Dunedin 1.26
Arrived 6.52 & saw
Mayor. Nothing to be
done to-day

10 Tues

Spent all morning
fixing up exhibits

Went aboard "Whangape"
& saw two of the
'Dundonald' survivors
they having signed
on for Auckland.
Wrote to Rose & in the
afternoon wandered
about the quiet town.
Wrote Hedley & J. Vause
Closed exhibition at
9.30. with £10.8.6

11. Wed

Saw by paper at
Breakfast - 'Empire'
Hotel. That Prof.
Scott was in the
harbour in his
yacht. I pulled
aboard & surprised

hair shaving. On
returning I packed
up boat etc. & saw
it on to rail. Left
at 1.34. arrived at
Ch Ch. 5.8 met by
Rose & Gerty Hall.

12. Thurs.

The newts egg first
laid hatched during
my absence. Russell
asked me to fix-up
exhibits at Art gallery

13 Fri

Arranged boat &
relets in Art gallery
& opened at 2.0
Reviewed "Birds of
Yorkshire" went
to town at 9.0 &

took over money -

14 Sat.

Took Rose + Gerty
Hall to see 'relics'
in afternoon made
sketches of Disap-
pointment Is. and
Castaways huts. In
evening I went to
collect balance of
money £8. 7. 11 in
all.

15 Sun.

wrote to Dr Vause
with quotations from
Mrs Waites' letter re
her visit to his
mother.

16. Mon

Anniversary Day -

took afternoon off

Visited Shackleton

Reid & England of

Univrod & returning

their call at Museum.

Took Rose to Gardens

aft. tea with Mr Rich

17. Tues.

Dinner to Univrod
Officers on Thursday

Shackleton's lecture
on Friday Conversaz.

on Monday. The
goldfish spawned
to day.

18 Wed

Placed willow-roots
in fish pond, the

fishies are now in
full spawning.

19 Thurs

Attended Citizens' Dinner
to Shackleton and Staff.

20 Fri

Took Rose to Shackleton's
lecture on Antarctica.
Letter from Allan
re Thetis records.
Replied to printed
greeting from Chairman
Board of Governors.

21. Sat.

Miss Gruar came to
dinner leaving after-
wards for Wellington.

22. Sun.

Egg of goldfish laid
on 17th. hatched to-
day. I completed
account of spawning
of Newts for P.L.S.
N.S.W.

23. Mon

Took Rose to Cowper-
sazione to welcome
Sub. Ant Expedition
back and to speed
"Kinrod" Expedition

24. Tues.

The Weekly Press
contains photos of our
Exped. including 5
of mine. Received
invitation Lyttelton
Harbour to picnic

on Saturday. Ack-
nowledged greeting fr.
Capt Atkin of Brit.
Court N.Z.I.E. (3
Plowden Buildings
Temple. 2C). Obtained
draft for Dibb & Co.
£39. 5. 6.

25. Wed. Xmas Day.
Went to Hülse's
after tea. Arranged
to join him and
others (going tomorrow)
at Ashley Gorge
on Tues. 31st.

26 Thurs.
At Museum in the
morning. Called
on David. (United.

Service Hotel) & had
chat with him &
Shackleton. Letter
from Dr. Vause &
one re mooses from
Dr. Murray (= Nimrod)

27 Fri.

Met David in the
morning & took him
to various firms
for purchases. In
the afternoon we
met the Speights
went to Lyttelton
Saw over "Nimrod"
& "Galilee" & took
photos of both.
Wrote to Niven &
Sullivan re trawling
industry in N.Z.

Also to Ayson. I told him that as I had not received any proposal for his Debt. I was looking for other avenues of publication and asked for quotation for 300 copies of the trawling Chart (to be printed in his report)

28. Sat.

Took Rose to the Harbour Board picnic a brilliant gathering including 'Nimrod' & 'Galilee' people. - Yesterday I fitted

up one of my
large glass & wood
tanks in the middle
of the Aquarium
House, I expected
it to "take-up" a
leak - This morning
I found that the
dripping water had
softened the ground
& one leg had gone
down, the tank
was thrown against
one of the glass
tanks, which it
smashed, it contained
nothing of value.
The tank being the
only loss -

29. Sun.

wrote article on
lick marks of
Limnæa stagnalis

30. Mon

Placed young gold
fish in slate tank
writing Annual
Report.

31. Tues.

Finished Report &
left at 5.20 for
East Oxford. Should
have arrived 8.14
but delayed by
holiday traffic to
8.49. Cycled 6
miles in the dark
to Ashley Gorge &
found Hutson

Henderson & Richardson's
camp.

Sent Draft for
£ 39. 5. 6 to Dibb
Co.

61

70

1908.
January.

1. Wed.

Two traction engines each with 4 waggons brought a large number of picnics to the gorge. Therefore we walked out of the area for quiet. Saw Native Canary Bell Birds, Redpolls etc heard Moreport got Galaxias Gobio morpheus & Anguilla in the river. Had the night fairly to ourselves picnics having departed.

2 Thurs.

Struck tent at 2.
Hilsen & I cycled
to East Oxford the
others having a
trap. Reached
Papanui 6.37.

3 Fri.

Relter from Mr. W
an operation for
fissure.

4 Sat.

Left with Edgar
Stead in his motor
for Rakaiia River
& covered the 41
miles in $1\frac{2}{3}$ hours.
He got some good
trout. Put up at

his Whare.

5 Sun.

We did some
river wading and
put in a drag
net. got *Galaxias*
in the streams &
Petroperca in the
river & where it
ran over rapids,
Cheimarrichthys, it
is surprising how
these little fishes
can hold their way
among the smooth
boulders swept by
the rushing water.

6 Mon.

Returned to town

7. Tues.

Commenced to write
description of Cheim
arrichthys

8. Wed.

Sent 3 notes to
Museum's Journal
On receiving Nov-
number I found
my name on the
title page.

~~9. Thurs.~~

Wrote note on the
Torrent fish for
Newspaper afterwards
all to Hülseus.

9

Thurs
Letter from Hedley
wrote to him & to

Allan. Colored more
fish Casts at Museum

10 Fri.

Commenced drawing
of Cheimarrichthys.
Hulsen has obtained
an appointment in
Queensland & leaves
at end of month.

11. Sat.

Gertie, Hall & the
Hulsens to tea.

12. Sun.

To the "Warimak."
with Hulsen and
Robson at 7.30
am. back to dinner
I got 3 young Eels
about 4 inches long
& some Bullies.

Finished drawing of
Cheimarrichthys -

13 Mon.

Took articles and
drawing of Torrey
fish to "Press".

14 Tues.

Article published. I
went to Hulsen's in
evening asked him
to get me a watch
& a cork (watchmaker)
eyeglass.

15. Wed.

Letters from Chadwick
Nellie Beale and
Jordan. Gave Sparkes
who leaves for a
month on holiday.

letter to Niven &
Nielsen at Napier.
Received the watch
wholesale 13/6. & eye
glass 1/6. fr. Nielsen
with Rose, Claude &
Gerty Hall to West
pictures. Sandsteni
drew 2 milk teeth
for Claude & gave
me a overhaul,
nothing necessary
but detartaining

16. Thur.

Museum Committee
agreed to my request
for a junior.

14. I. 08.

THE TORRENT FISH.

(SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR "THE PRESS.")
(By Edgar R. Waite, F.L.S., Curator
Canterbury Museum.)

A drive of an hour and forty minutes in a 22-h.p. car brought Mr. Edgar F. Stead and myself near to the mouth of the Rakai River. On arrival, one felt tempted to ask the name of the village, but the numerous habitations were merely fishing-boxes; if one may apply the term boxes as it is used in respect to shooting. These fishing-boxes are houses of as various dimensions as their claims to luxury, and they provide the only break in a long stretch of sea and landscape.

The object of my quest was a little fresh-water fish, of which but two or three examples were known, and was induced by Mr. Stead bringing me a single specimen some time previously.

After wading several streams, alternating with flax, cabbage trees, and totipot, we reached an arm of the Rakai; by means of a punt and some strenuous pulling we landed on the further side, but another branch had to be crossed thigh-deep by wading. The rushing water was, however, safely negotiated, and here, in a veritable torrent, the fishes were said to live.

A small net, used after the manner of a seine, and weighted with a length of chain, was the instrument of capture. So strong was the rush of water over the boulders that the net could not be used against the stream, and, therefore, the opposite course was adopted. At the time of our visit the water was so cloudy that nothing could be seen in it, but on successive hauls of the net several specimens of the fish were secured.

The fish was first described by Dr. Haast in 1874, and he was so impressed with the circumstance of the conditions under which the little fish lives that he named it *Cheimarrichthys*, which expresses, in Greek, the fish of the torrent. Being so rare, it has not received a popular name, and we cannot therefore do better than christen it "Torrent fish."

The original specimens were taken in the Otira, flowing westward; we now have it from an eastern river, the Rakai, so it may confidently be looked for in other snow-fed torrents.

As there are, doubtless, many who will be pleased to help to extend our knowledge of the distribution of this very interesting fish, I append a short description, by which it may be recognised when obtained. It is, also, not at all improbable that in searching for a particular species, others, hitherto unknown, may be discovered.

When Mr. Stead first spoke to me about the fish he said it resembled a bully, but had a mouth like a shark. The idea I then formed was confirmed when, a few days later, he brought me the specimen above referred to. This shark-like mouth, then, is an excellent distinguishing character, for whereas in the bully the two jaws are of approximately equal length in the Torrent fish the upper jaw is much the longer, throwing the mouth to the under side of the head. It possesses four nostrils, whereas the bully has but two. The latter fish has two distinct fins on the back, the Torrent fish has a single long fin preceded by four very low spines. Abandoning comparison, the Torrent fish ranges from four to five inches in length when full-grown, and has the under side remarkably flat, so that it is able to keep close to the bottom, heading upstream. The ventral, or throat fins, are large and muscular, and are probably used for clasping stones; the tail is well developed, as would naturally be expected of a fish living in rushing waters. The general colour is olive, and the hinder half of the body is ornamented with three V-like bands of dark brown, which are especially pronounced in young examples. The fins are colourless, but are prettily marked with brown spots.

An added interest will be given to the Torrent fish when it is mentioned that one of its nearest relatives in New Zealand is the far-famed blue cod.

An illustration of the Torrent fish will appear in the next issue of the "Weekly Press."

18 Sat - Press photographer
"took" casts of fishes
arranged to have
block of Torrent fish.

19 Sun.

Miss Niederbaum &
Gertie Hall to tea -
Hilsen came & I
gave him a lesson
on drawing fish

20 Mon.

wrote Mr Waite,
Drummond came
in evening and I
lent him Howard
Saunders "British
Birds" & "Philosophy
in Sport" the latter
contains account
& picture ¹⁸¹² of the
"Pandalore" just
revised as "Diabola"
(see Dec 9th).

Repaired Rack-work
of Voightlanders lens

21. Tues.

Spent evening at
Hülseus helping
them to pack they
leave on 30th.

Wrote to Auderton
re Camera etc which
I shall send to
Thompson this week.

22. Wed.

Eastwood sub-editor
of Weekly Press
called re photos
of Cast fish and
I arranged to
write account of
them.

23 Thurs

Sent Camera etc
to Thompson to whom
I wrote, offering
the lot for £13 -
Sale of Hülse's effects
they all had tea
with us.

24 Fri

Wrote article on
Cast fishes for the
Weekly Press.

25 Sat

Druckh of Mosman
sent J Phillips to
see me with letter
of intro - he is
interested in Aquaria
Asked him up to

tomorrow. At work
in afternoon with
10 men unloading
Mahuta's canoe.

26. Sun.

Phillips came to
afternoon tea, he
is 'Cello with 'De
Groen's band. now
with West's pictures.

27. Mon

Went with Rose to
a farewell "Social"
given at Linwood
to the Hülseus.

28. Tues

At yesterday's Board
meeting the following
matters were dealt
with.

THE MUSEUM.

NECESSITY FOR ADDITIONAL ROOM.

REPORT BY THE CURATOR.

The Board of Governors of Canterbury College at their meeting yesterday decided, on the recommendation of the Museum and Library Committee, that a personal assistant be engaged for the Curator of the Museum at a salary of 15s per week. The committee reported having appointed a sub-committee to take into consideration the enlargement of the Museum, on account of the exceedingly crowded condition, and to bring up a report.

In connection with these matters the following extract from the annual report of the Curator (Mr Edgar R. Waite, F.L.S.) was read:—

“I have the honour to forward to you my report for the year 1907, and in doing so beg to draw your attention to the fact that no addition has been made to the building for the past thirty years. The collections have grown to such an extent that the exhibits are, in many cases, in an exceedingly crowded condition, and below I beg to suggest a partial remedy. An entirely new museum is being built at Wellington, and a new wing is being added to the Otago University Museum at Dunedin, and one feels tempted to

ask: 'Is the Canterbury Museum to fall from the high position it has occupied among colonial museums?' I would also point out that whereas the collections of the Museum have increased, as indicated, the staff remains, numerically, the same. The employment of a youth to act as personal assistant would relieve much of my time at present devoted to purely elementary routine work.

"Structural.—A strong room, now in course of erection, was rendered necessary by the acquisition of valuable medals. It will shortly also be possible to accommodate other treasures previously but ill-protected.

"Galleries.—The overhauling of the Ethnological Room was completed, and some new cases added, which, however, scarcely relieved the very congested condition of this valuable collection. An addition to this room is urgently needed, and not only can nothing further be exhibited, but a small proportion of the objects shown can be said to be properly displayed. Nothing can at present be done in the way of descriptive labels—a matter which I consider is most desirable. I would, therefore, urge that a gallery be built round this room, for which, I understand, foundations already exist. Other rooms are also congested, and an extension of the building itself is really needed, but the requirements of the Ethnological Room are the most pressing. The New Zealand Room has also received considerable attention. The birds are being carried on a more modern form of stand, and new labels supplied. The gallery of this room will need some rearrangement in the near future, it being intended to improve the display of New Zealand fishes, a work already well in hand. Miss Stoddart's drawings of New Zealand plants were suitably framed and hung upon the walls of this gallery, where they form a most instructive exhibit."

s The Chairman asked for authority to
- convene a conference of the Canter-
bury members of Parliament, with a
t view of placing the necessities of the
Museum before them, and of waiting
on the Prime Minister and asking for
financial assistance. He pointed out
that the fund out of which the
Museum is maintained is also that
from which the funds for maintaining
the Public Library, the School of En-
gineering, and the School of Art are
provided, and that it was impossible
to provide out of it for additions to
the Museum buildings.

On the motion of Mr Montgomery,
seconded by Mr Rowe, the chairman
was empowered to convene the con-
ference.

The Chairman
brought one of his
own boys as a
candidate, for the
position. I agreed
to take him for a
month on trial.

29. Wed.

Received a Guinea
for article on Cast

fishes - Sent copies
of the paper to
Etheridge Mr Waite
& Museums Assoc.

30 Thurs

Received demand from
U.S. W. Land Tax

3/7 fine 4/- 3/11.

& unless paid by
tomorrow proceedings
to be taken. As

this is the only
notice (& addressed
to Mosman) I have
had I wrote a
suitable reply.

Paid Rent £5-8-4

& Income Tax £2

for N-Zealand.

31. Fri.

Claude resumed school
being moved up into
upper form of Lower
School. Russell told
me that his boy
will not come to the
Museum having won
a bursary. Advertised
as follows:—

CANTERBURY MUSEUM.

WANTED, an Intelligent Youth for the
above, well educated, age 14 to 16.
Salary, 15s per week. Apply in own hand-
writing, with testimonials, to the under-
signed.

3957

EDGAR R. WAITE, Curator.

wrote Goots Printer
for trawling reports
also re Charts in
Ayson's Report.

Took Rose + Claude
to 'West's' Pictures'
Some Aquarium
photos were very good.

February.

1. Sat.

Gardening and at
work cleaning Workshop.
wrote Govt. Printer for
trawling reports.

2. Sun.

Gerty Hall to tea her
last visit.

3. Mon

~~Called on Mrs. Hall~~ Attended
Council meeting Phil
Inst. Telegram from
Ayson.

4. Tues.

Ayson called. he
was disappointed
not to receive an
"interim report"

from me & said
the allport now
regretted that the
Govt had not paid
my salary while
on the trawler as
they now had no
hold on me. He
went to San Romulo
to see the young
goldfishes and I
found that another
batch of eggs had
been deposited. At
night I went out
for fresh Willow
roots. T. W. Kirk
called to see me.
The first time I
had met him.

5 Wed

Received specimen of
Neochanna and an
account of habits.

Bollans called to
see me, and left
some fishes. Took
Rose + Claude to
West's pictures at
night. fine = kinds
of fishes, incidental
to a party in a
submerged train.

6 Thurs

at 10. pm. when I
was asleep Rose
woke me, having
heard a fire bell.
On getting up I

found the sky all
aglow to the S.W.
I slipped on some
tops & posted to the
city on the bike.
Found an enormous
conflagration in
High St and watched
roofs of successive
buildings fire &
break downwards to
the storeys below
I remained till
12.15. When the fire
was raging furiously
as ever & seemed
likely to consume
the entire block
I cycled round to
Litchfield St where

The big warehouses
were being demolished

The

7. Fri
Took Rose + Claude
to West's Pictures
again, asked Phillips
to tea on Sunday.

8. Sat.
Phil Inst. Library
Committee at 11. O.
wrote G. W. Thompson
re letter + camera
sent on Jan 23rd
+ not acknowledged.

9 Sun.
Phillips came in
the afternoon and
we rode for the
Waimak. but his
bike broke down
and we had to
return, he stayed
the evening.

10. Mon.

Attended publication
Committee of Sub-
antarctic Expedition
Took Rose & Claude
to West's Pictures.

11. Tues.

Bought new coat.

Bike lamp 12/6 &

rear carrier 2/6.

12. Wed.

Took Rose & Claude
to Prize distribution
School of Art.

13. Thurs.

Letter from G. M.
Thomson. He had
no idea of buying
Camera for use at
Fish Hatchery. In

replying I quoted
Auderton's letter.
Letter from Etheridge
re Echinoderms &
replied.

14 Fri

Attended funeral of
W. Beale.

15 Sat

Am now writing
at introduction to
trawling report.

16. Sun.

Printing photos of
trawling Expedition
for illustration of
trawling report.

17. Mon.

Following note in to
day's press

A large whale, measuring 99ft long, and 20ft wide, and so high that a man on horseback cannot see over it, has been washed ashore at Commissioner's Point, six miles north of Okarito, near Hokitika. Viewed from a distance it has the appearance of a stranded dismasted vessel.

Telegraphed for details.

18. Tues.

Telegrams to and from
Galore. Offered £25
for skeleton. Refused
& afterwards accepted.
Arranged to leave
on Thursday morning.
Letter from Aupou?
re trawling reports.

18. Wed.

19 Mounted photos of
trawling expedition.

My new "boy" R.D.
Barker commenced
work to day. Busy
running about re
Whale expedition.

The whale is 87 ft.
and there will be
a great difficulty
in getting to Okarito.

19 Thurs

20 Left Ch. Ch. at 7. am
with Shakes. Arrived
Broken River 9.30. We
then coached to the
Bealey, had lunch
there. On the way
I had seen my first
Paradise Ducks. The

White head of the
being most conspicuous
Passed Lake Sarah
where I had had a
dip when with Speight
& Cockayne and had
got Isotetes & Pillularia
continued coach and
when we got to the
head of Otira Gorge
I concluded the area
I had previously seen
over (On bike). The
Gorge is simply Grand
Saw both entrance
& exit situations of
the Arthur's Pass
tunnel, which will
be commenced shortly.
Arrived at Otira at

5 pm. On the coach
we had chatted
with a lady who
proved to be Miss Hil-
dendorf. brother to
J.W.H. Passed Lake
Brunner which was
formerly rich in
grayling (*Prototroctes*).
almost eradicated by
trout. On this side
the dividing range
the vegetation is more
luxurious and the
timber mills are in
great number both
white & Red Pine being
sawn. We also
passed flat mills
Arrived Grey-mouth
8.10. where Sparks

was met by & stayed
with a married daughter
I put up at 'Royal'.
Had a stroll seaward
a welcome hot bath
& turned in.

21. Fri

Left Greymouth 6.55.
and arrived Hokitika
8.40. No boat until
the bar at Okarito
opens and no over-
land coach till. Wed
Engaged trap and
started off at 2.30
Had tea at Ross
& off again. Stayed
night at "Sam
Fergusson's" arriving
about 8 O'clock.

As I will write an
account for the
newspapers I shall
not write details
here.

22 Sat.

Left Fergusons (Farm
gully) at 7. am
drove half round
Lake Taupo and
has rough experience
in crossing the Big
Waikare. Met
Minister for Lands
(McNab) with whom
I had a chat.
Got a fresh horse
at Tom Fergusons
dined and received
telephone call from
Okarito re whale

28 miles from here
landed us at our
destination. The
Mt Hercules Pass is
much more beautiful
than the Otira.

Crossed Waitaroa in
a punt. Arrived at
7.30 a small place
of 12 houses only.
No tools or labor
to be obtained.

23 Sun

Drove out $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles
to Whale in Springless
cart. Found Whale
to be *Balaenoptera*
sibbaldi & a truly
colossal brute. We
put in some work

on it & found that
the baleen had
dropped out. Saw
white Crane & black
swans. Took photos
& changed plates.

24 Mon.

Photo'd whale again
sent telegram to
Russell, 'project ab-
andoned'. In the
afternoon Thomson
Harb. Mast. took us
to Ocean beach &
washed gold out of
the black sand.
Saw bats in evening.

25 Tues

Thomson took us up
lagoon in boat thence
we walked to whale

The oil running down
the sand kept the
breakers down. Fell
in with party of
surveyors under Mr.
Cunningham & had
lunch with them. As
the wind was not
favorable towed home
Spent evening with
Thomsons. Commenced
to write article
for "Press."

26 Wed

Walked with Thomson
to 3-mile beach &
had fine view of
Mt. Cook. Had dip
in the small lagoon
there. Got small

Galaxias. T. gave
me 2 eggs of Black
Swan.

We left Okarito
at 3. drove to the
Forks & intercepted
mail. Letter from
Rose. Then took the
Mail Coach to the
Glacier Hotel (Balson).
arriving 7.15. We
had passed Lake
Mapowika. The
distances were, to
Forks 5 miles 2/-
Forks to Hotel 12
miles 4/-

27. Thus

Thomson & Hevelde-
(of Forks Hotel) came
up early and we

all set out for the
Glacier, hauled boots
ice axes etc. First
went to hut at
foot of glacier, 3 miles
& then to where the
river emerges from
under the ice. We
climbed Sentinel Rock,
returned to hut
for lunch & then
made up left side
of the glacier &
had a rough hard
climb over a track
recently made and
abounding in plank
& suspension bridges.
When we got on

to the ice things
became more interes-
ting & we cut our
way as we went
got ice plant on
the margin of the
glacier.

28 Fri.

Walked to the hot
spring & had a
dip before breakfast.

Then for a stroll
took photos etc.

Spent (warm) afternoon
on article for the
"Press" Exchanged
my 5x4 Premo (with
Hotel Proprietor) &
£2 for his 1/2 plate
Premo No. 3.

29. Sat. (Leap year).
Left Glacier Hotel
at 7.30 am, upset
an old man on
horseback, at the
forks 10. O'clock, &
arrived Heude's Board-
ing House ("The
Willows") at 6 pm.

17. Oppie, I. S. Foster, and W. Izard.

The Chairman reported that a few days ago an offer was received from the owner of a skeleton of a very large whale, and he instructed Mr Waite to go over to Okarito. He regretted that he had received a telegram from Mr Waite stating that the project of bringing the skeleton to town had been abandoned.

Mr. Macfarlane reported that the

March

1. Sun

Torrents of rain during the night & the river is said to be impassable. The Mosquitos had been terrible so we walked, in the rain, to the Ferry House (Peter Hendel) which we found to be much nicer. Rain all day, the river had risen 4 feet.

2. Mon

Wired to Rose. As H. Hendel has a dark room & the necessary chemicals

I spent all afternoon
developing my 41
plates.

3. Tues

Rain, thunder and
lightning, river still
higher in morning
but subsided con-
siderably later.

4. Wed.

River much lower
but still apparently
impassable. At 10.
some Govt Surveyors
on cycles got across
in the ferry, and
the mailman not
wishing to be out-
done also decided

We were ferried
+ the horses swam
a rough crossing of
the "Big Wanganui".
Heavy rain fell
again later & had
we not crossed at
the opportune time
we might have been
still further delayed.
Telegraphed to Rose
"home Friday night".
Arrived at Ross
6.15. after a wet
& dreary day.

5. Thurs

Left Ross by coach
at 8.30 & took
train at Ruatapu
to Hokitika. Next

boarded goods train
to Grey-mouth, after
signing indemnity
Arrived G. 1.25
wrote further on
"Press" article.

Di 6.

wrote Wilfrid, I
Mrs Waile & Editor
Press. Left Grey-
mouth 8.40 arr.
Olivia 11.15. Coach
to Broken River
& home at 9.50

7. Sat

Letter from Hornung
& Co. - Carroll had
failed to pay, for
2 months &

Signed a distraint
Warrant. Horning,
who is doing a
round trip, called
just as I was
answering the letter
& said that Carroll
had been embezzling
& had been dis-
missed by his
employer. Letter
from Wilfrid. Marie
expects a baby
on Feb. 20th. Letter
from Land Tax
Commissioners re
claim 3/7. Assessment
has been increased
sent the money -
Saw Russell re the

Whole, we telegraphed
Aoot. for West Coast
papers for tenders
for delivery of Skele-
ton in Lyttelton -
under supervision -

Received a letter
from jewellers ask-
-ing me if I would
take up the two
gold medals I had
been awarded by
N.Z.I. Exhibition. I
did not know that
any award had
been made to me.
+ don't know what
for. What 2 medals
are awarded. One

is double the Aquarium.

8 Sun.

Printed photos. taken
during Whale trip.

9. Mon

Newspaper from
Mr W. enclosing a
letter from J. W.
Vance. Following
appeared in Times
as result of the
visit of reporter
some time ago.

Cuttings re Whale.

AN INTERESTING EXHIBIT.

SKELETON OF A WHALE.

Recently the body of a large whale was washed ashore at Okarito, in South Westland, and residents proceeded to remove the blubber. The chairman of the Canterbury College Board of Governors (Mr G. W. Russell) took steps to acquire the skeleton for the Christchurch Museum, and he has been successful in doing this. The curator (Mr E. R. Waite), accompanied by a taxidermist, will leave for the West Coast to-day to arrange for transporting the skeleton to Christchurch, where it will be erected in the Museum.

The skeleton is about eighty-seven feet long, and will form a very valuable exhibit. Mr Waite will supervise the work of gathering the bones, which will be numbered so as to ensure accuracy. Probably some special provision will have to be made at the Museum for the reception of the skeleton.

Mr Edgar R. Waite, Curator of the Canterbury Museum, has left on a visit to the West Coast with a view to obtaining the skull of the whale which was washed up at Okarito recently.

A MONSTER OF THE SEA

WHALE STRANDED AT OKARITO

Mr Egan R. Waite, F.L.S., Christchurch, arrived from Okarito last evening and was interviewed by a representative of this journal. Mr Waite stated that on word being received that a large whale had been stranded on the beach at Okarito, he decided to go to Okarito and inspect it. He left Christchurch on February 20th and took the shortest route to Okarito. The whale is stranded on the beach about $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the township of Okarito and is a very large one. It is 87ft in length, and the lower jaw 22ft long and $11\frac{1}{2}$ ft across. Each jawbone is about 2ft in thickness and cannot be spanned by both arms. The tail measures 22ft across. The whale had evidently been dead for some time before being washed ashore, as the whalebone it contained had been lost. The monster was identified as a blue whale (*Balaenoptera sibbaldi*) one of the largest species known. The specimen on the beach is an excellent one, and is a cow whale. Mr Waite stated that nothing could be done in the way of securing the bones, because no suitable tools could be obtained in the locality, and the difficulty of getting labor for the work. Mr Waite has still hopes of securing the specimen, and on reaching Christchurch will set if it is possible to raise the necessary funds for the object. Mr Waite was accompanied by Mr Sparkes and they were stuck up at Hendy's ferry for four days.

10. Tues.

Library Committee
of C. P. Institute.

11. Wed.

Council meeting of
C. P. I. repaired my
music stand, broken
a day or two ago.

12 Thurs.

Letter from Ogilby
re Protectors. We
spent evening with
the Creswells.

13 Fri

Commenced to photo
rays etc. Taken on
trawler. Printed
photos. Okarilo trip
for album and
reproduction.

THE OKARITO WHALE

UNDER OFFER TO CHRIST- CHURCH MUSEUM.

Yesterday the Board of Governors of Canterbury College had before it a letter from Mr E. F. Stead, who recently acquired the skeleton of the whale on Okarito beach, offering, on behalf of himself and Mr R. Turnbull, to sell the skeleton to the Board for the Museum. Mr Stead, in his letter, said that the skeleton was complete with the exception of one of the

Before attempting to describe the whale as we found it, lying in its hugeness on the beach, some account of how we reached the scene may be of interest. I may say that we started off with very meagre details of the route, and had to feel our way, so to speak, as we went along.

At 7 a.m. on February 19th we left Christchurch, and by the usual tourist route, through the Otira Gorge, finally arrived at Greymouth, on the West Coast, about 8 o'clock at night. Leaving early next morning by train we reached Hokitika before 9 o'clock, and here experienced our first difficulty. We had learned from the guide books that a boat runs between Hokitika and Okarito, 83 miles to the south; and we found that it does—sometimes. The last time the boat entered Okarito Harbour was two months previously. The silting up of a shifting bar was responsible for the condition of affairs which, as we afterwards learned, is ruining the welfare of the town.

The only alternative, therefore, was to go by land; a coach runs once a week, but leaves Hokitika on Monday, reaching Okarito on Wednesday evening—Friday to Wednesday was too long to wait, for who could say what might happen to the whale meanwhile. The greatest difficulty was experienced in getting a conveyance. Mr McNab, the Hon. Minister for Lands, was eight hours ahead of us, and had taken the best horses and vehicles out of the place. Finally we did manage to arrange for a passage, though a rather expensive one. When, however, we turned up at the appointed time, we were told that the weather was threatening, as indeed it was, and that the driver was not going to run any risks with the rising rivers; he valued himself and his horse and trap, and also had some consideration for us. To make the proverbial "long story short," another conveyance, or rather the same conveyance and horse, but another driver, was secured, at a very substantial increase on the previous stipulated amount. I am not going to say there was collusion, but at any rate this ended the difficulty so far as the conveyance was concerned.

After wasting half a day over the matter, we drove away about three o'clock. The number of tenanted and dilapidated houses and stores was new evidence of the change which had come over the once prosperous district, a fate common to many places built on gold. Chatting with an old man, he said that where now no boat was lying at the long wharves, he had seen them three deep, and that in the good old days money ran like water. As we drove along we saw men at work on the roads, all old men, all former diggers, many of them at one time prosperous. Leaving the town behind with its mountains of "tailings," still being formed by modern dredges, we passed through forests of rimu or red pine, slowly disappearing before the ravenous timber mills which besprinkle the route, and smaller areas of silver and white pine. Tree ferns luxuriate on the dampness of the west, and the tussocks about and about the topmost branches of the dead giants which Nature has cheated of the woodman's axe.

Our horse was a strong one, but had the habit of stopping and backing. Our driver wouldn't allow that this was fibbing. He explained that the horse had been in a baker's cart for some time, and had got into bad habits. Every semblance of a hill had to be negotiated with the driver at the horse's head; on the flat or the down grade we made excellent progress, so that, like Mark Twain's watch, we made a fair and square average. A stoppage at Ross for meals upset the horse considerably, and a broken trace resulted. Rough roads, heavy rain, and swollen rivers made driving unpleasant, but we were told that, owing to the fact that the Minister was in the district, the larger boulders had been removed from the route across the rivers, and our crossing was the easier therefore. As darkness came on, the sides of the road were illuminated with fairy lamps, the light being emitted by phosphorescent fungi. We finally reached Fern Gully and stayed at the accommodation house of Mrs Ferguson.

The rain having cleared away during the night, the promise of a fine day was amply fulfilled, but a night's rest had not improved the temper of our horse. In addition to usual means employed to mollify a fibbing horse, our patient driver introduced some methods which were new to me. I am sure he walked or ran as often as he rode, and during one of his excursions about he placed his handkerchiefs crosswise in

14 Sat

Pasted photos. in
Album. Paid gas etc.

16 Mon

Made drawing of egg
of Ray. I have now
finished introduction
to "Nora Nien" report
and account of the
Selachians.

17. Tues

Letter from Benham
re Schinoderus &
Terms of Expedition
I wired for amount
of \$15 etc. and on
receiving reply, wrote.

18. Wed

While Rose & Claude
were in town, I
went to Mr. Parson's
& had music.

19. Thurs.

Museum Committee,
I sent in report
urging that whale
be obtained that
my trawling report
be printed in "Records"

20. Fri.

Tranter repaired
the B L shutter
of Premo Camera.
Received letter from
Phil Inst. asking
me to work out the
Vertebrata of Sub.

Antarctic Expedition
The Mus. Committee
considers that my
report should be
published by the
Government.

21. Sat

Received Offer to
deliver Skeleton of
Whale at Lyttelton
for £200. Saw Russell
& wired acceptance
at £175.- Campbell
Bros. - The Cascade -
wrote to Russell &
pointed out that
the Shet's Report
had been published
both in f/cap & 8vo.

& asked that the
Kora River Report
should be treated
likewise. The 800
to be a number of
our Records.

22 Sun.

Went to town re
telegrams about the
Whale, nothing definite
yet. Wrote Benham
re publication.

23 Mon

Spent evening with
the Crosswells. Music.

24 Tues

We are now taking
photos of Delachians
for illustration of
trawling report.

25. Wed.

Attended first practice
of the new Orchestral
Society.

26. Thurs.

Made wash drawing
of Egg cases of Raja
& Cephaloscyllium -

Letter from Benham
in reply to mine
(22nd) Saw Chilton &
he also wrote me
a letter re unde-
-sirability of the
Report being published
as a Govt paper -

Sent both letters to
Russell with one of
my own -

27. Fri
wrote on article
for "Press" Trawling
Fishes.

28. Sat.
The Cresswells returned
our visit when we
had music.

30. Mon.
Attended meeting of
Council, Phil. Inst.

31. Tues. Rose
~~Received~~ received a
letter from a lady
asking permission to
see over the house
with view to purchase
Rose went to agents
& learned that they
had given a "card
to view" and had

not informed me
that the owner would
not renew lease, a
fact they communicated
to her. I therefore
wrote notice to quit
such to expire on
April 30. being the
termination of my
tenancy. wrote to
Hilken & to Allan
in reply to his of
12th inst. wrote
to Farnell & sent
him some trawling
photos - Goldfishes
spawned.

From a good woman
when she weeps,
From a bad woman
when she smiles
From a clever woman
when she talks,
Good Lord deliver me.

Beef when you're
hungry
Beer when you're dry
Bed when you're
sleepy
Heaven when you die.

April.

1. Wed.

Received letter from the
agents. They will ask
owner if he will re-
new the lease. I
attended Musical
practice.

2. Thurs.

Randall will not
renew. We visited
agents & inspected some
houses in evening.
Letter from Hedley?
Wrote to Whiteledge re
P. L. S. U. S. W. & P. R. S.
H. S. W. for Phil. Inst.
Hatcher sent proof
of note on breeding
of the weasels. Have

added photos of Jim
Raja & Typhlouarke
to the plates.

3. Fri.

The following appears

THE MUSEUM.

SOME PROJECTED IMPROVE- MENTS.

The Museum is an institution, of which the citizens of Christchurch and Canterbury are justly proud, and anything that concerns it is always of public interest. A representative of "The Press" had an interview with Mr G. W. Russell, chairman of the Canterbury College Board of Governors, in regard to several matters connected with the institution.

Referring to the peculiar situation which had been brought to light in regard to the fee simple of the Museum site, Mr Russell had some interesting remarks to make. "I thought it desirable," he said, "to ascertain exactly in what position the present Board of Governors stood in regard to the Museum property, and I was very much surprised when I found that through all these years a valuable building like that had been left with the fee simple still remaining in the Domain Board. Certainly the Domain Board would have no possible interest in seeking to prevent the Board of Governors having the freehold vested

in it. The only thing is that we may, when the question is raised, suggest to the Domain Board that it is desirable that a small portion of the land on the south side of the building (which is now a part of the pathway leading into the Gardens), should be vested in us, so that our freehold should not be bounded merely by the wall of the Museum. The desirability of such an addition to the Museum land should readily be recognised. It would probably involve some alteration to the gateway and path, but that could be arranged without difficulty between the two Boards. So far as the Museum generally is concerned," Mr Russell continued, "there is a very fine block of land connected with it, providing ample room for the enlargements which in the future are bound to be necessary. I may say that when the recent fires occurred at the hospital and mental hospital, I was somewhat alarmed at the condition of the Museum grounds, and after visiting and making a thorough inspection of the property it was decided to spend a fair amount of money on such work as would obviate all possible risk of accidental ignition during the dry season. The necessity of having a complete system of fire prevention in the building is fully recognised, and were it not for the fact that a gravitation water supply scheme is now being arranged for the city, I would have proposed a considerable expenditure in the way of installing some system of fire prevention. However, it would now be a waste of money to do anything in that way, as one will, I hope, have the gravitation scheme passing our property shortly. As soon as that takes place I will recommend to the Board to have a thorough system installed, to prevent any possible danger of the magnificent collection being destroyed by fire. In the meantime every care is being exercised by the attendants as far as the appliances will permit."

Mr Russell then touched on the matter of enlargement of the Museum, and stated that a report had been received from the Curator as to the direction in which the enlargement should be effected. "At the present time," the speaker said, "several departments are so crowded that the specimens cannot be displayed to the best possible advantage, and the Board of Governors is really not in a position to spend money in connection with the buildings, because the Museum draws its support from the combined Museum, Technical Science, and Library Account, which has to provide partly for the School of Engineering, Public Library, and School of Art, as well as for the Museum. Consequently the Museum is an institution that for a number of years has been starved—I use the word advisedly—on account of the pressing claims of the other institutions. The intention is that the Government shall be approached with a request that the Museum in Christchurch shall be regarded somewhat in the light of a colonial institution. It really holds this status, as it is generally recognised that it contains the finest collection in the Southern hemisphere, and stands very high when placed in comparison with the museums of the Empire. We feel that there is a claim on the part of this city for assistance from the Government, especially when the huge expenditure they are about to make in connection with the museum in Wellington is considered. We shall look for the support of the Canterbury members of Parliament in approaching the Government. On the first occasion when the Prime Minister is passing through Christchurch, and he can give us the time, a deputation will wait on him urging the claims of the Museum of Christchurch for assistance

to provide for the necessary extensions to display the always increasing collection. For example, if the whale specimen which we are now in treaty for on the West Coast is obtained for the Museum it will occupy about 100ft in one of the rooms. The specimen is nearly 90ft long, and will be the largest specimen in any museum in the world."

4. Sat.

Farr received telegram from Mr. Nab, the Government will finance work on Sub-Antarctic Exped. up to £500!!

5. Sun.

The goldfishes spawned notwithstanding the cooler weather.

6. Mon

Wrote to Walrond of N.Z. Graphic re photos taken on

The Governor's trip.

7. Tues.

Letter from Madam,
she has bought a
boat from J. W.

(Jimmy) Vause for
30/- for Claude.

Also letter from
Vause re same -
(from Southampton).

8. Wed.

wrote Jordan re
Richardsonia, Cast
preoccupied. and
referred him to my
article in Ann. Mag.
Nat. Hist. I asked
him for his latest
papers which he
has not sent to
me - attended

musical practice.

9. Thurs.

Commenced exam.
of Auckland Island
fishes first taking
Galaxias. In view
of frost of which
we have already
had a sample I
took the Goldfishes
to the Museum tank.

Letter from a
man (Pearson) at
Morseman asking if
I wanted to sell
'Burley'. Wrote to
him, negatively &
also to Horning.

10. Fri.

Russell telephoned

that he will go to
Wellington to night.
I went to see him.
gave him M.S. &
plates of trawling
Expedition. so that
he may lay the
matter of publication
before the Minister.

11. Sat

Unintelligible tele-
gram from Camp-
bell re whale &
letter fr. Burroughs
ditto. Eggs of the
Goldfishes hatched.
The cold weather
having retarded
them.

13 Mon.

Saw Russell after his interview with the Minister. An Official application has to be made. Russell considers my criticism too drastic. Attended Council meeting Phil. Inst.

14. Tues

Letter from Mrs W. She reports that Marie has given birth to a second daughter "Monica Mary."

15. Wed.

wrote to Wilfrid. Sick to day did not go to musical practice.

16. Thurs.

Handed my rotatory drill to Museum & obtained another for myself. Smaller. I could not get one like that I had & which is especially suited for Museum work. Letter from Farnell. At meeting of Museum Committee it was proposed that the Govt. be asked to publish travelling reports up to £200.

17. Good Friday.

At home spent in gardening and in the workshop.

18 Sat.

Received the diploma
"Gold medal" awarded
for Aquaria -

19 Sun. Easter.

20 Mon.

Paid visit to Museum
in morning - no news
from Okarito. Went
to Bowling Green with
Mr. Creswell in the
afternoon -

21. Tues.

Letter from Okarito
Our offer of £100
not accepted. Letter
from Benham re
the publication, &
replied.

22. Wed.

Attended musical
practice

23 Thurs.

Received Official Rep.
on trawling from
Tyson. Having

received complimentary
tickets I took Rose
& Claude to "Olivia"
(near of Wakefield.).

23. Fri.

Attended meeting of
Publication Committee
(Sub-Ant. Expedition).
We appointed Chilton
editor.

24 Sat.

Studied the trawling
report and commenced
to write criticism

Following appeared to-day. Am taking steps to have it sent to West coast folk

In conversation with a reporter yesterday on the subject of the West Coast whale he has been endeavouring to secure for the Museum, Mr Edgar R. Waite stated that after frequent consultations with the Chairman of Canterbury College (who had met him in a very liberal spirit), he had been unable to come to terms with the people who had "pegged out" the whale, owing to their very unsatisfactory replies. He (Mr Waite) was extremely sorry to drop negotiations, but it was the only thing to be done under the circumstances.

Took Barker out to find Galaxias and called to enquire after Stead's father. Claude's boat, the "Mermaid" arrived. Made by J. W. Vause. Given by Mrs Waite

26. Sun.

wrote J. W. Vause &
repaired boat, rather
badly damaged in
transit.

27. Mon.

Attended Council
meeting C. P. Institute
The £5 levy to the
Sub-antarctic Exped.
is to be returned to
the members in con-
sequence of the
grant from the Govt.
Spent evening with
the Creswells. Music.

28. Tues

At yesterday's Board
meeting Russell made
his Annual State-
ment. following

is an extract:-

THE MUSEUM.

The museum had for many years been starved, but the grant could now be increased. The salary of the curator was not equal to the responsibility of his office, and the sum spent in the purchase of specimens was ridiculously small. This amount should be increased to £250 per annum at the least. The buildings were at present insufficient, and the Government was being approached for assistance.

Wrote Mr Waite re
Claude's boat.

29. Wed.

Owing to rheumatism
in my right hand
which I have had
for weeks I have
discontinued atten-
dance at Musical
Society.

30. Thurs

wrote to Dr Vane,
Received notice that

as result of my
objection assessment
of "Headingley" has
been reduced from
£ 283, to £ 250.
and tax from 3/7
to 10^d. Agents for
the house wrote
to tell me that the
owner had accepted
me as monthly
tenant & complains
about state of the
grounds - I sent
suitable reply and
paid month's rent.
16/- Charged, duty
expenses for Claude's
boat 4/-

May.
1. Fri.

Now arranging my pamphlets & ordered cards to be cut for cases, Made cases for P. L. S. U. S. W, only portion being previously cased.

2. Sat.

Took Rose for walk, to Miss Madebaum's,

4. Mon.

Bound copy of "Basic List of Fishes" inter-leaved.

5. Tues.

My birthday. A first part of my article on the whale

appears to day.

IN THE WAKE OF A WHALE.

THE WILD WEST COAST.

(SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR "THE PRESS.")

BY EDGAR R. WAITE, F.L.S., CURATOR,
CANTERBURY MUSEUM.

On opening my newspaper on February 17th, I read that a large whale, measuring 99 feet long and 20 feet wide, had been washed ashore six miles north of Okarito, "near Hokitika." It was so high that a man on horseback could not see over it, and, viewed from a distance, it had the appearance of a stranded dismasted vessel. If this account was anything near the truth, it was something like a whale.

As the result of telegraphic messages to and from Okarito, I left for the West Coast with Mr William Sparkes, taxidermist to the Museum. I had no authentic record of a whale 99 feet in length, and was prepared to discount this considerably. People said:—"Why couldn't they say 100 feet while they were about it?" But one had to remember the remark of the Yankee under similar circumstances:—"Stranger, do you imagine I would imperil my immortal soul for the sake of a paltry twelve inches,"

However, before starting, we learned that the whale had been taped by Mr J W. Thomson, harbour master of Okarito, and that the exact length was 87 feet. Here, then, we had one of the largest whales known to science. It is true that greater dimensions have been recorded; have we not an instance in the newspaper report of this identical creature, which diminished 12 feet under the tape? Whales have been described as 960 feet in length, but the older historians were notorious for drawing a very long bow. In 1532 Olaus Magnus, whose illustrations, by the way, are monstrous and fantastic, in describing a whale cast on to a Northern beach, gave its length at 90 feet; this may have been correct, for, according to the most reliable modern authorities, whales have been accurately measured 85 feet in length.

Whales are the largest animals which the world has ever known, gigantic fossil remains notwithstanding. Anyone, therefore, who has seen a whale 87 feet long, has viewed the greatest animate production of Nature.

My object was to secure the skeleton of this gigantic whale for the Canterbury Museum, but, as my readers will be aware, I have not been successful.

There was no mechanical bar to securing the bones and transporting them to Christchurch, and failure did not result from want of energy or enthusiasm; there are, however, conditions quite beyond one's control, and before these the most ardent must needs bow.

the horse's mouth, tying the ends to the rings of the bit. "That's to occupy his attention," was the explanation. The next move was to tie two knots in the handkerchief, and later a few puddles were poured in the hair, but trifles of this kind did not seem to have much influence on the mental condition of the animal.

I had but previously seen anything very special in New Zealand in the way of ferns, but this drive on the West coast was a revelation to me. Mile after mile the coast was bordered by great masses of fern of many species, and the brilliancy of their greenery was most refreshing after the comparatively parched appearance at that time observable on the east. A visit to the West shows how justifiable is the adoption of the heathland as the emblem of New Zealand.

Last the very luxuriance of growth should become noticeable, great diversity of scenery is provided. Now the road skirts a beautiful lake, peopled with ducks, and from the banks rise pukaia, as we call them. Kingfishers are also seen, while native pigeons fly across our route at frequent intervals, or perch on the trees not a little way distant. The frequent river crossings furnish some excitement, and in our case the maximum was reached at the "Big Wanganui." As we afterwards learned, there is a ferry here, but our driver, who was new to the route, appeared to be unaware of this. He was palpably nervous of a river with the name and reputation of the Big Wanganui, and his countenance rapidly brightened when we saw ahead of us, on the near banks of the river, two drays preparing to cross. Mr. Sparkes and I were transferred to the top of one of the drays, laden with bags of chaff, and I can safely say I have never had a rougher time aboard any vehicle than I had in crossing this.

In the deepest part it was eight inches above the axles of the dray, was running like a torrent, and its bottom is set with huge boulders. Lying full length on my back on the top of the chaff bags, my arms extended, and each hand grasping a bar of iron, I was jolted, chucked, and patted about so that sometimes my body was thrown clear off the bags, and it seemed as though my arms would be pulled out of their sockets. The river is wide, and we were all fording at the same time; a dray in front, our trap with the patient driver, and jibbing horse next, and finally ourselves on the other dray. We had got fairly going when the expected happened. The jibbing horse jibbed, and stood cock still in the middle of the raging, rushing water, and we pulled up in consequence. Responding to the driver's persuasion, the horse promptly broke a trace, and every credit is due to the way in which the man clambered over the horse's back and effected temporary repairs. We were all glad to find ourselves, we scarcely knew how, safely on the further bank. Soon afterwards we met Mr. McNah and party and following a five minutes chat and wishing him "good luck" at the river, we passed on to the foot of Mount Heracles. Here a new horse was obtained, and though it had long job (it was not entirely free from a will of its own), it had also less pace, so that our average was about again maintained. Here the people of Okarito intercepted me by telephone and we learned something more about the whaler.

I cannot attempt to describe the scenery of the next twenty-eight miles. The route across Mount Heracles is as fine as anything I can remember. The Gorge is grand and imposing, but the Mount Heracles route is infinitely more beautiful.

There was one more serious river to cross, the Waitama, but this was accomplished in a boat, and the way in which the ferryman, a Maori, managed to cross the rapids, the boat being sculled about like a cork, was something to admire. We reached Okarito about 7.30 on Saturday evening, having made a really rapid trip from Christchurch.

Next morning we made an early start for the whaler, but in the meantime learned something of Okarito, past and present. To-day it contains only inhabited houses, of which two are hotels, in the twenties there were no less than thirty hotels, a Chinatown, many stores, and altogether it was a thriving town. There was then no road from Hokitika, and all traffic was transferred along the beach. I was told that there was a constant stream of pack horses to and from the glaciers, and the two punts, each carrying fifteen horses, were kept busy. Almost every house of the hundred or so which formerly existed has been restored, and though not new nothing, even the name of village, it is still spoken of as two towns. To one man met across the lagoon I said, "Do you live on this side?" "Oh, no," he replied, "I live in town."

There are two great influences retarding the growth of the place, one is the bad approach by land, the other by sea. The good effect of the bridge over some of the rivers is but owing to a break in the chain, and the rising of the Big Wanganui may suspend traffic for days. A bridge is greatly needed, but it will be for the Minister to decide if the cost can be met. The chief hindrance is the other trouble, and perhaps the main one, for all stores, etc., are annually carried by water. It is now four months since the vessel was able to enter, and stores are at ruinous prices. I was informed that very shortly the price of sugar would be £1 per 50lb bag. There is a fine belt of red pine round the lagoon, easily reachable in punts, but unworked, owing to the difficulty and uncertainty of transit. At present there are 300 bales of flax fibre and 10 bales of wool in the sheds awaiting the boat. Immense flocks of black swans people the lagoon, and daily we saw that rare bird, the white crane. One resident told me that he had seen eight sitting together on a rock, and I was very pleased to find that the residents have the greatest regard for these birds, and I fancy that anyone that roys one would have a very rough time indeed. Ducks are numerous, and waterfowl, geese, etc., and other birds people the shores. Here, too, we saw the only hair I have met with in New Zealand.

Gold is being worked in many places, and it is said that a man can always make a living by washing the alluvial sand on the seashore. Several prospect pits were made for in one a shovelful, and an excellent show of colour was obtained.

(To be continued.)

constantly occurring at the internal terminal space, and these form the first seven embryologically known or normal ones.

In winter the fall of season you photograph the amount under the tooth the size of summer, but it would seem that the supply is not broader equal to the loss. If I had used several well known girls, the growth was at the time much more extensive even than at present.

One generally understands that a glacier moves extremely slowly, but a glacier favourable to its motion this is by no means the case. In one lateral valley the ice is travelling, it was found, at the rate of a foot and a half per day, and the great masses of ice which were pointed out to be so having fallen during the past few months would fully substantiate the statement.

Quite recently it was possible to get on to the river from the terminal house. This now presents a serious problem, probably because of the construction of the railway to travel round the edge of the glacier for 2 or 3 miles. This would be impossible both for the path which has been made and for the boat. Hence, I, and his staff, it is an admirable piece of road engineering in a place where narrow gullies have the snow and ice piled up to a platform high in ruins from a dirty barge. At one place the "ceps" of the glacier show up over the edge of the ice, and the narrow gullies, the gateway, and indeed part of the glacier has been dynamited and further removal will apparently be necessary.

To the prodigal, a visit to the place, is a practical lesson of the hidden value, and the casual visitor would well attempt to read up the subject in glances beforehand, otherwise it would be to him a mere field of ice, the lesson it teaches being lost. No after-reading would compensate for the neglect, because the essential features not having been looked for, would have been unnoticed.

Quite near to the foot of the glacier I had a dip in a hot spring. From which a cloud of steam arose, condensed by the cool air from the ice stream.

[illegible]

During the night, where we stayed at Hendon's ferry, rain fell in torrents and next morning the river had risen between four and five feet, and was pronounced to be impassable. A terrible rain in the daytime and terrific downpours at night, is a very uncommon phenomenon there, and kept the river up until the following Wednesday when it fell as suddenly as it had risen, but was still said to be too dangerous to cross. However, some Government land surveyors, who were cycling, aspired to cross in the ferry, and arrived safely on the further side, after a tamelying passage.

They placed the machine on bicycles for he did not like the idea of going anywhere without them. The engine was a small, light affair, and the matter that I had imagined. The engine, armed with a small, light affair, was a small, light affair, and the matter that I had imagined. The engine, armed with a small, light affair, was a small, light affair, and the matter that I had imagined. The engine, armed with a small, light affair, was a small, light affair, and the matter that I had imagined.

And so we had crossed the big Wapiti in good and all were glad; only regret I heard expressed was in the Minister of Lands had not shared the experience. "For then," said the Whitesiders, "he would have seen in which we require a bridge." This is the word expressed for two months and as there rain fall in the morning it is probable that we should be long further delayed had we not crossed.

We boarded the morning train to
the station and a van of the
train, after having signed a form
indemnity. Advantages were taken
the frequent and most stoppage
route, incidental in climbing to
from the train and gather blackberry
enormous bushes of which lign, not
the railroad, but also all the higher
over which we traveled in Western

My efforts to secure a position in Western New Zealand gradually proved unavailing. At the same time, I began to feel that the lack was absorbing my attention, and I was in danger of being lost. There was a possibility of the government of the colony being permeated by the introduction of a new system of government, and I was anxious to secure a position in the new system. I was, however, not able to secure a position in the new system, and I was, therefore, not able to secure a position in the new system.

The group of fresh-water fishes, the distribution of which suggests the history of a former Antarctic land connection, are comparatively few. The shiner of the genus *Gelatinus*—having recently been found by the discovery that several species have part of their lives in the sea. The only remaining New Zealand trout, therefore, are the tarrant hui, but which I recently gave some account in the columns, the langwey, and the grey eel.

6. Wed

Took Rose & Claude
to Pt Meeting of the
Session C. P. Inst.
When Helgenborg
gave a masterly
exposition of Mendel's
law of heredity.

7. Thurs.

Sent papers with
account of whale

to:- Wilfrid

Etheridge

Farnell

Hellawell

Roebuck

Rooks

Cherry

Welch

Mr. Waite
Chadwick
Fanny B.
Nellie B.
D. Vause
Paterson
Hilseu
Belle.

Miss Hall
Mr. Megson
Katie
Eddie Adamson!

} From
Rose.

Thomson, Okarito.

8. In.

Labelled the cases
of P L S. N. S. Wales.
framed two pictures.
Arranged with Edgar
Stead for Taylor's
mistake, tomorrow.

9. Sat.
Wrote to Charnian
& asked him to com-
municate with the
Minister again.
Went to Taylor's
Mistake with E.F.
Stead and poisoned
a large pool but
with small success.

Bovichitus,

Tripterygion (2 sp.)

Acanthooolinus.

Syngnathus.

10. Sun.

Made outline sketches
of 2 species of Tripterygion
(T. Varium
& T. ?).

11. Mon.

Chairman telegraphed
to Minister as result
of my letter (9th).
Letter from Johnston
re Grayling. Handed
it to "Press".

12. Tues.

In one of his interesting articles recently published in "The Press," Mr E. R. Waite, Curator of the Museum, remarked that during his travels on the West Coast, in the wake of the Okarito whale, his efforts to secure examples of the New Zealand grayling proved unavailing. He expressed the opinion that the grayling was being exterminated by the introduced trout. In connection with this matter Mr Waite has received a letter from Mr A. M. Johnson, who states that when curator for the Acclimatisation Society some 30 years ago, he went to some trouble and expense in procuring from the West Coast some of these fine game fish for breeding purposes. He made them a special race and spawning ground, and he considered it quite possible that there might be some still there in the low part of the gardens near the river. The Acclimatisation Society might take some interest in this fish, and endeavour to propagate them naturally and artificially.

Received letter from
Hedley asking for a
testimonial - a new
position is created
at the Museum, viz:
"Assistant Curator" &
he is a candidate -
I shall possibly be
one also,!

13. Wed

Thought out plan of
campaign - Arranged
for Rose to write to
Etheridge, during my
"absence" and I will
wire on my "return"
after mail day !!

14. Thurs.

Rose sent letter to

Etheridge - Put Maori
mats into new case
I have just had
built. Was summoned
to Museum Committee.
without notice. Found
the "publication" was
under discussion &
Russell asked me to
address the Committee.
Placed all the facts
etc. before them. Es-
timated total cost
at £200 and first
part containing my
introduction, fishes,
Benham's Echinoderms
& Lamour's Algae at
£80. I left the
Committee to discuss

The matter.

15. Fri

Sent cable to Etheridge
"Would like to be-
come candidate for
new position if agreeable
to you." Russell
brought me a letter
from Allport Secy.
of Marine Depart.
Government will
publish results of
trawling expedition
& place sum on the
estimates. I wrote
to Allport & asked
him to publish at
once & said I would
take M.S. and the

illustrations to him
(Wellington) at his
convenience - Sent
P.C. to Benham to
acquaint him.

16. Sat.

Received reply cable
for which I had
deposited 5/- ($12/9$ total)
from Etheridge :-
"No personal objection."
Frank Chilton came
to lunch, afterwards
we went to Cress-
well & had quarts.

17. Sun.

Drafted application
for Sub Curatorship
& letter to Hedley.

18. Mon.

Preparing Cases for
pamphlets & labelled
them. As the House
agents are sending
people to view the
house with object of
selling, I am doing
a little packing -
Supposing the Sydney
appointment does
not come my way
we shall probably
board for a term
when turned out of
"San Romolo".

19. Tues

worked further at the
pamphlets. wrote my

application, ready
for Thursday's mail.
Sent Kerosene box
of pamphlets, I do
not value to Herze-
mann for exchange
but carriage alone
cost £1-11-3. !!!

20. Wed.

Benham asks size
of plates so that
he can arrange his
drawings. replied
that I am awaiting
letter from Wellington.

21. Thurs.

Posted my application
letter to Etheridge
my Ann. Report &
letter to Hedley.

Spent evening at
the Creswells.

22. Fri

Claude commenced
New Term. He visited
dentist. I consulted
Dr. Gibson about my
Arthritis & received
prescription. Wrote
out scheme for
making a tour of
Maori settlements
with object of getting
curios & will submit
to Chairman - At
night attended the
Council meeting of
C.P.S. Asked Herd-
man Smith's. Sunday

22. Sat.

Wet. Took marine tanks to pieces. Sent letter with "scheme" to Chairman.

23. Sun.

Made case & packed Marine tank, the work taking me all morning. In afternoon the Herdman Smiths Miss Creswell and Speight came, the 2 former by invitation and stayed the evening.

24. Mon.

Empire day. Took holiday and did some case-making and packing.

25. Tues.

Paid Dames 4/6 for
books £2 - 1 - 6 -

Packed more books
at night.

26. Wed.

27. Letter from Minister,
the publication must
wait for the Estimates
wrote Benham to that
effect.

27. Thurs

Replied to Hornings
letter authorising the
"doling up" of "Burley"

Ordered 8 Beer

Cases for packing
purposes 12/- 5/-

Moorthouse called
to see me re the

Whale and will ask
question at Board
meeting tomorrow.
Packed all cases
available.

28. Fri

Rose had a letter
from Etheridge in
reply. He says that
"Charles" is the
only applicant &
that the Board had
not done more than
institute the position.
Letter from Hornung
"Burley" let for
6 months @ £1.

Beer cases left &
full cases including
Marnie tank taken
to the Museum.

39 Sat

wrote to Matsons &
gave months notice
to quit "San Romolo"
but asked option to
renew for July.
Played Quits with
Croswell in afternoon.

Recent acquisitions at the Museum include a model of a great auk's egg presented by the curator (Mr Edgar R. Waite). The great auk, which was a flightless bird about the size of a goose, has been extinct for many years, the latest examples having been obtained in 1844. The model of the great auk's egg presented to the Museum is from a specimen in the Edinburgh Museum. Another new acquisition is a paper-nautilus from the Chatham Islands. Mr R. A. Speight, M.A., F.G.S., has presented to the Museum specimens of andesite from Ruapehu, Kete Tahi (Tongariro), Wai-hohoru Gorge (Tongariro), and Blue Lake (Tongariro); basalt from Samoa; lava from Savaii (Samoa); and volcanic tuff from Samoa.

A word to members of presentation

June

~~31~~ Mon.

1. Attended Council
meeting. C. P. J.

Took Rose & Claude
to College Laboratory
night.

June.

2 Tues.

Put together my available papers for C.P.I. and finished packing my books in the evening

3 Wed.

The hardest ^{frost} of the season, the window panes being iced.

Attended Empire celebration at the College. in morning witnessed a hockey match in afternoon & attended meeting of C.P.I. at night.

4. Thurs

Received 2/9 from
N.S.W. Land Tax Com-
missioners - Letter
from Hedley acknow-
ledging my "frank"
letter of May 21st.
Telegram fr. Ayson
he is bringing a
Salmon for my
inspection & opinion.
Spent evening at
Cresswell's.

5. Fri

Ayson called the
Salmon is Onchorhynchus
tschaw Quinnat
bred in N. Zealand.
Wrote official and
personal letter to
him afterwards -

Wrote to Mr Waite,
Wilfrid & Dr Vause,
telling the latter of
my application -

6. Sat.

Quits in afternoon.

8. Mon.

Hearing that a depu-
tation is to wait on
Premier tomorrow re
Museum extension I
drew plan of my
propositions.

9. Tues.

Premier visited the
Museum & the Board
then adjourned to
the College. Russell
brought forward two
requests Chemical

Laboratory £5000 and
Museum £12000. The
Premier said he
could support me only
& naturally selected
the least costly.

10. Wed.

Ordered from Junk
(Bull. No 6) Poey
fishes of Cuba £1.
& Steindachner's Ichth.
Mittheil. 9 pts. 4/6.

11. Thurs.

wrote to Chairman
& suggested that as
the Premier had
asked him to put
his requests into
writing, he should
ask for assistance
with the Ethnological

gallery and leave
the more comprehen-
sive extension for
a future time. Met
Heslop (Malson & Co)
he says the owner
agrees to my suggestion
as to option of re-
newing the tenancy.

12. Fri.

At College in the
Afternoon. Diploma Day.

13. Sat

With Rose and Claude
walked to see Mrs
Taddebaum.

15. Mon.

THE MUSEUM AND CHEMICAL
LABORATORY.

DEPUTATION TO SIR JOSEPH
WARD.

At noon yesterday the Prime Minister visited the Canterbury Museum and Canterbury College in connection with the proposals of the Board of Governors to make additions to the Museum and to build a chemical laboratory. The Chairman of the Board (Mr G. W. Russell), a number of the members of the Board, and Messrs Rhodes, Gray, Witty, Ell, and Laurenson, M.P.'s, and the Hon. C. Louison were present. After visiting the Museum and inspecting the existing chemical laboratory, an adjournment was made to the Board room, where a deputation of the members of the Board waited on the Prime Minister.

The Chairman conveyed the thanks of the Board to Sir Joseph for having put through the House last session the Coldstream Reserve Endowment Bill. Regarding the proposed additions to the Museum, in connection with which they desired to receive financial assistance from the Government, he referred to the Museum as a national institution, and said that the existing building was inadequate. He dealt at some length with the finances at the Board's disposal for the proposed work, and in reply to Sir Joseph said that the Board had not got an architect's estimate of the cost of the additions and alterations, but in his opinion they would cost roughly, £12,000. Referring to the chemical laboratory, he pointed out that the present building had been erected as a temporary structure, but the Board's finances had not warranted its putting up a proper building. He dwelt at some length on the necessity for a new building, and stated that its cost would be £8,000, of which £2,000 had been in hand; it was in respect to the additional £5,000 that the Government's assistance was desired. The College authorities were prepared to undertake experiments in connection with firebricks, brown coals, New Zealand flax and other things that the Government was anxious to see tested in order to develop the industries of the Dominion.

Bishop Grimes and Bishop Julius spoke in support of the Chairman's requests.

Mr J. L. Scott remarked with reference to the Museum, that owing to the lack of room, many exhibits were at present stored away in packing-cases, part of the Museum being used as a storeroom. That was one of the crying needs for the extension of the building.

Sir Joseph said he was glad to have the opportunity of hearing from the Board its reasons for the requests that had been made by the chairman. They did not anticipate from him a promise of any kind—he did not make promises in connection with the public expenditure of the country. He would be very glad to look into the whole matter, and from the standpoint of giving assistance. He was quite sure that they would not look for contributions from the Government towards the cost of the two buildings; he thought that the Government might give favourable consideration to a contribution to the cost of one of the buildings. He thought that Christchurch was entitled to consideration; what had been done by the people here under the old form of Government was exceedingly creditable to them. He fully endorsed all the statements made as to the importance of the Museum, but as he understood from what the chairman had said that the chemical laboratory was the more essential, he would put it on the list for consideration.

THE deputation from the Canterbury College Board of Governors received an absolutely non-committal reply from the Prime Minister yesterday, when it asked for State assistance in building a chemical laboratory and in improving the Museum. Sir Joseph Ward recognised that both were very proper purposes for the expenditure of public money, but beyond saying that the Board could not very well expect two grants in one year he did not give a hint of his intentions. Canterbury has never troubled the Government seriously with regard to its educational institutions. Thanks to the foresight of the leaders of the early settlement, university education and secondary education, so far as boys are concerned, were liberally endowed. But, of course, the institutions have grown with the province, and the revenues that were sufficient twenty and even ten years ago, are not now adequate to supply the modern requirements of the community. It may be true that some of the greatest scientists carried out important works in little back rooms and cellars, but they were individual geniuses experimenting along narrow lines. Every progressive country recognises the need for proper appliances for scientific research, and it is absurd that an energetic young nation like this should be neglecting the groundwork of industrial progress. It may be that even the provision of a great chemical laboratory will not produce scientists, but it is certain that young men with an inclination towards original research will not take up the work that should be done unless the appliances are provided for them. The State would be wise to institute research scholarships for the encouragement of original work in applied science, and of course if it did so it ought to provide a laboratory where the scholars could carry out their experiments. We are hopeful that the Premier will consent to a liberal grant to the Canterbury College Board. The claim in regard to the Museum is on a different basis. The Government, we believe, is making a mistake in spending money on the so-called Colonial Museum. It ought to build on the very excellent foundations that have been laid in Canterbury, because it is manifestly better that the dominion should have one really great museum than four indifferent institutions. Parochial considerations receive altogether too great weight in such matters. If the Government adopted a sensible policy of spending money where it would do most good, it would find the general public quite ready to approve, whatever the politicians and the newspapers might say, and in the matter of museums it ought to aim at making the Canterbury institution the pride of the whole dominion.

16 Tues.

Had the first snow to-day. We seriously talked of leaving the house at the end of the month, and boarding. This will be convenient while I am away on the collecting trip. Edgar Stead made further inquiries about the Whale's Skeleton. We work out the relative cost as follows:—
(Rose having ascertained Mr. Sincox's terms to be.

Rose & Self.	2.10.0
Claude.	15.0.)

The following is the

weekly outgo.

At home.

Board etc.	2.	0.	0
Rose.	15.	0	
Rent.	1.	5.	0
Gas (say)	6.	3	
Washing. (say).	1.	6	

Boarding.

Board.	3.	5.	0
Rose -	1.	15.	0
Washing (say)	2.	6	
* Storage furniture.			

* Much can be stored
at the Museum.

These figures only give
those subject to varia-
tion owing to change
of living, and do not
represent (by any
means) all the outgo.
During the 4 or 5
weeks I shall be ab-
sent "Boarding" will
be credited to 257-

17. Wed.

Letter from Tyson
he sent me some
account of introduction
of Quinnat. I wrote
at the article at
night.

18. Thurs.

Letter from Sinclair
the appointment will
not be made until
the estimates are
passed. Spent the
evening, music at
the Cresswells.

19. Fri.

Booked seats for the
"Scarlet Pimpernel"
we are going to take
Miss Cresswell and
Claude will stay the
night with the old
people. Finished my
article on the Quinnet
Rose arranged to
board near Bealey
Avenue (Miss Allan)
and we shall leave

the house at the
end of the month.

20. Sat.

Handed in Quinuat
article for "Press."

Sparkes & Self are
sketching out our
collecting tour -

Played Quoits with
Cresswell, Tucker
& Longden in afternoon.

I supplied a "Press"
reporter with notes
on the congestion
at the Museum &
he evolved the
following.

21. Sun.

Had afternoon tea
with the Barkers.

THE MUSEUM. SPACE CONGESTION.

Public attention has frequently been directed to the necessity for making further provision for the housing and proper display of the exhibits in the Canterbury Museum. It is doubtful, however, whether the necessities of the case are generally appreciated, and such appreciation can only come after a more than casual observation of the condition of affairs. The Museum authorities have certainly not been confined to the expedient of leaving exhibits to the mercy of the elements by being unable to put them under a roof, but space is so inadequate that proper exhibition of many portions of the magnificent collection is impossible. These in charge of the Museum in the past have done admirable work in putting together this store of treasures, and it seems that the time has come when something more should be done in the way of classification of exhibits for educational purposes.

The members of the Museum staff are now engaged in making a thorough revision of the exhibits in the Maori House, which is temporarily closed to the public. New cases are being erected, and in these the objects will be displayed to the best advantage that the still inadequate space will admit. A system of classification has been adopted, and descriptive labels are being attached or placed in close proximity to the exhibits. The rule followed in classification is effectively demonstrated in the arrangement of the exhibit of stone implements. At one end of the large glass case which contains the collection is a sample of the stone from which the implements are manufactured. Working up from this "raw material" the other exhibits illustrate the processes of cutting, grinding, flaking, chipping and polishing, so that at the other extremity of the case there repose some valuable specimens of the finished article. This system has been adopted wherever possible, and it should greatly increase the educative value of the exhibits. The collection of Maori manu, which formerly occupied a space 7 ft square, is now displayed in two large upright cases, along with other articles appertaining to clothing. It is unfortunate, however, that the cases which contain the great majority of smaller exhibits are so crowded that it is impossible to do justice to them as far as the descriptive labels are concerned. In the recently proposed enlargement scheme the Curator's idea was to use the present mammal room for the New Zealand collection. Ample space would be available there for an adequate display, and the collection would have been in its proper place—the first to be seen by the visitor on entering the Museum. The New Zealand room is the smallest of the three principal galleries, which is badly lighted, and in no way suited for the purpose for which it has been assigned. The ornithological room, which is the largest in the Museum, is undoubtedly a magnificent show place, but the cases are inordinately crowded, and any attempt at rearrangement or to provide adequately descriptive labels seems to be out of the question. One of the proposals to secure relief from the obvious congestion was to erect a gallery, which would have been a comparatively inexpensive structure, as the foundations were built in anticipation of such an enlargement. A certain amount of classification could then have been carried out by placing the inland exhibits in the gallery, and devoting the ground floor to continental collections. The other departments of the Museum, apart from those already mentioned, are not likely to increase their space requirements to the same extent, as the mineral and fossil specimens are fairly complete, and any additions can be accommodated without inconvenience.

Mr G. W. Russell, chairman of the Canterbury College Board of Governors, which controls the Museum, was asked by a "Press" reporter whether the Board proposed to undertake the construction of any extensions, in view of the reply given by the Premier advising the Board's application for assistance. Mr Russell said that in the statements he had brought down for the past two years in connection with the finances of the Board, he had been working on a clearly defined policy. That policy was to seek outside financial assistance as far as possible, in order that the Board would draw less from the endowment funds. For instance, the fund from which the office staff was paid was strengthened last year to the extent of £250 by levies on the various institutions, in order to strengthen the College fund, so that development should take place in connection with the physics and other ordinary departments of the College proper. In exactly the same way the Board had recently applied to the City Council for assistance to the Public Library. The fund from which the Library drew £200 of its yearly revenue was provided for the Museum, and, in fact, the latter institution had no source of revenue whatever apart from the endowment fund. If the demands of the Public Library on the endowment fund were to cease, the Board would be provided with an income of £200 a year, which they would devote to the extension of the Museum, and an increased expenditure on the acquisition of specimens. The expenditure on new specimens had been very small during the last few years, the finances of the Museum having been seriously crippled by the Public Library expenditure. The Board thought that while the Library was entitled to some expenditure out of the endowment, the moral claim of an institution like the Museum was infinitely greater than that to supply the people of Christchurch with the latest novels, newspapers, and magazines, while the city, unlike Auckland, Wellington, and Dunedin, was doing nothing in that direction. If the city was prepared to shoulder its proper share of the responsibilities, he could see his way at once to propose extensions of the Museum which he was sure the public would approve of. He was, however, decidedly opposed to drawing on the capital fund for that purpose.

22. Mon.

Attended C.P.I. Council
meeting. Packing at
night.

23. Tues.

Took Rose and Miss
Cresswell to the
"Scarlet Pimpernell"
Julius Knight. Claude
Stayed the night at
the Cresswells -

24 Wed

Took afternoon "off"
+ did some packing
Had our empty cases
removed from Museum
to the house

25 Thurs

wrote to Etheridge
+ Mr. Waite.

26. Fri.

Hamilton came to take
the Taheretikiti canoe.
took afternoon off &
did some packing -
Received £3. 5. 0 from
American Fisheries
Bureau for copy of
Macleay. R & Ogilby
& postage.

27. Sat.

Received cast of Tunny
which Hamilton had
brought down. Spent
afternoon & evening
packing. miserably
wet.

28. Sun.

Rained all day
Had dinner & tea

With the Cresswells.
Packing otherwise.

29. Mon.

Whites men at work
all day. I took
a "holiday" to help
Dr. Moorhouse came to
see the Aquaria &
agreed to give me
£10. for the house,
the glass jars & all
appurtenances if the
cost of removal was
not too great. Rain
all day.

30 Tues.

Soaking rain which
made packing long
& troublesome especially
trundling the heavy

Cases over sodden
Ground for cartage
Keywoods will remove
aquarium house for £2
& Moorhouse then closed
the contract at this.
Slept at Boarding
House this night.

July,
1. Wed.

The men finished packing to day and we got everything under cover at the Museum, working in drenching & continuous rain. Letter from Etheridge in friendly strain. Paid rent closing the tenancy.

2. Thurs.

Employed man and woman to clean up the house & grounds. Straw being in great evidence. We had a treat in drying clothes etc. Took

Fire insurance policy
to be endorsed Paid
£3. 17. 0 School fees.
Letter from Dr. Vause.
Received Exhibition
Diploma Gold medal
for "Attack & Defence"
Received £7. 0. 5 for
rent of Sydney pro-
perties.

3. Fri

Took Rose & Claude to
Pantomime "Cinderella"
Arranged to leave on
tour on Tuesday.

4. Sat.

Went to Edgar's Stead's
in afternoon to see
his Keas & N Z Birds'
Eggs. Aquar Ho. removed

5. Sun

Spent morning at
Museum putting things
into order for trip.

6 Mon

Received College cheque
£200 + opened an A/c.

Paid Gas 4/6 £1-11-11

Took out ticket per

'Maori' tomorrow
in names of Wade &
Parks (Waite & Sparkes)

Wellington return £3.10.0

Paid A/c Press Office for
strawboards 6/6. Made
arrangements for

Express Co to receive
goods in Wellington

Bought "Beck" 1/4 pl
Camera for £4.10.0

originally £ 5. 12. 6
& a light tripod 6/6

7. Tues.

Left Lyttelton at 8. pm
per "Maori" (turbine)
and sleeping all night
reached Wellington in
early morning of the
8. Wed.

Took first train for
Napier, "breakfasted"
at Woodville at 2.30
& reached our objective
at 6.50. After dinner
made some calls &
arranged programme
for tomorrow. Looking
at a map of N. Z. I
came across the fol-
lowing name given

to a place north of
Cape Turnagain :—
TAMATAU HAKATANGI HANGAKO AU AU.

9. Thurs.

Left Napier 8.45 am
for Hastings and took
coach for Fernhill,
thence walked across
the bridge to Omaha,
the Maori Pa. There is
a nice old whare here
and it is to be demol-
ished as a new one
has just been built. We
were, however, quite
unable to induce the
Maories to part with
any of the Carved work.

A Teko-tekko with
a taihai was fixed
as a weather vane.

all the girls made a
rush for us when they
saw the camera & they
I photo'd them in front
of the Whare. They
threatened to "sumuous"
me if I didn't send
copies. Visited grave-
yard, all the plots are
covered with cement
and as some of the
graves are full the
wooden coffins are
placed above them &
on a level with the
ground & built around
with brick & cement
like Sarcophagi. The
"Old Man" (Renata)
of Omaha died some

time ago. Returned
to Napier in evening
and after dinner walked
to Port. Saw Nielsen
& George Alward. They
gave me copies of the
N.Z. Graphic 16, 23/XI/07.
containing photos of
trawling expedition by
- Gordon who was
with the trawler on
a northern cruise.

Walked back to our
(Provincial) hotel and
decided to abandon
Gisborne as the roads
to Opoitiki are, at
this season, impassable.

10 Fri

Hotel keeper promised
to call us early, but

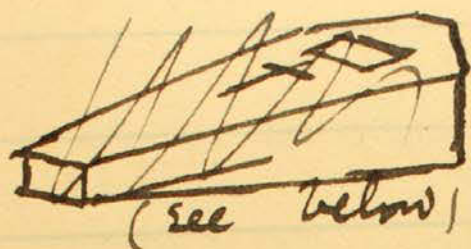
I got up at 6.0 called
Sparkes & we left at
6.30, no sign of any-
one about. being
unable to close the
doors we left them
wide open and went
to the station. At
8.20 we reached Te
Hauke & proceeded to
the Maori village.
It is not equal to
Ouahua, from our
point of view, the
buildings being more
or less Modern. The
Chief man is Johnny
Hapuka and he
calmly asked us £10
for 2 panels of Tuka

taka. I took a photo
of the whare, but
the place had small
attractions for us &
as we had 7 hours
to kill to train time
we walked to Te Aute,
2 miles for breakfast.
in a very cold and
howling South wind
we witnessed the
meeting of two mobs
of cattle, but the
Maories, on horseback
got them past very
well only 2 getting
through - off side -

we discovered that
the hotel was a mile
further on so de-
cided to relinquish

breakfast. I got a glass of milk & walked back to Te Hauke, having left luggage in the railway shed. We had intended originally to go forward to Woodville at 4.15 but as no business was to be done we decided to train back to Hastings have dinner & catch the train. We had thought of picking up at Te Hauke. While waiting at this latter place I took photos of Maori graves. There are various designs here. Some are

coffin like, built with a slope



a pane of glass let in for flowers and a cross beneath it.

Others

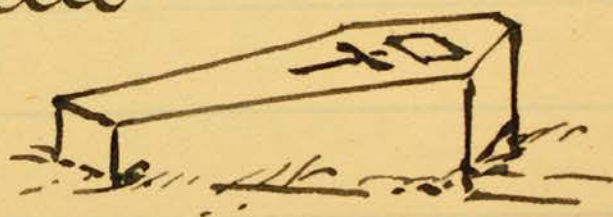
looked



like an

engine boiler, half buried all

are built of brick



Cement. At 11.15

the train came along having picked up Sharkey at Te Aute, he having preferred to forego the return walk to Te Hauke. We thus

returned to Hastings
had lunch and left
again at 3.15 for
Woodville. While in
the train we learned
that we could stay
at Dannevirke and
still catch the same
train for Palmerston.
It was bitterly cold
at Dannevirke, the
ground white with
frost and ice on all
the water-holes.

11. Sat

Left Dannevirke 8 am.
passed through the
Manawatu Gorge. It
was swollen with the
recent rains & one

of the bridges had
been swept away -
Saw Magpies near
Wanganui Mt. Egmont
looked magnificent
with its big cap of
snow, visible even
in the darkness of
night. Reached New
Plymouth at 8. pm
& at once visited the
shop where Butterworth
had his Maori stuff.
He however was dead
& no one else had
gone into business.
Cold & damp and in
great contrast to the
sunshine and warmth
of Napier.

12. Sun.

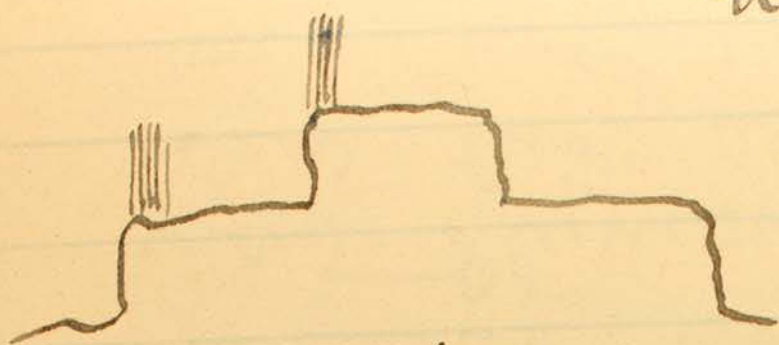
Damp succeeded by light rain. We first went to the beautiful Public Park. Natural hills, lakes & streams & finely wooded. Took photo of "Dickey Barrett" and old gun used against the Waikato natives. Next visited the cemetery, the chief interest being the graves of the men who fell in the war. They were laid in rows & a head-stone of iron is placed over each grave. All are of the same pattern

and bear the name
of the man, ~~the~~ his
number & that of the
Regiment etc. Many
were but 20 years of
age. Increasing rain
drove us back to the
Hotel. The weather
cleared in afternoon
& we walked to the
Sugar-loaf Mountain
Paritutu and noted
the wooded erections
over the shafts sunk
for oil. On inquiring
about Parikaka found
that we could coach
much cheaper from
New Plymouth, than
from Hawera, but

in any case shall have
to remain overnight
at the Pa. Visited
the New Plymouth Museum
& made notes on some
of the objects.

13, Mon.

Left New Plymouth by
Coach at 9.30, arriving
at the Parihaka Rd
at 2.0. thence walked
2 miles to the settle-
ment. The country
about abounds in
low hillocks Kopie-
like and they are
freely trenched & formed
fortresses during the
war. The palisading



has long
since
disappeared.

Though

The settlement is large
all the old dwellings
have been replaced with
modern structures of
weather board & iron.
Did not see a single
bit of carving. The
Pa is situated on a
flat surrounded by
conical hills and
there is a "square" in
the middle. The
Chief's house (formerly
Te Whiti) stands at
the head of the
square and almost

assumes the magnitude
of a palace with
wide verandah, perhaps
300 ft in length. I
don't know how many
rooms it contains, a
great many. We
found it holds an
enamelled iron bath
hot & cold water. W.C
of latest pattern &
in fact everything
up-to-date. We
first enquired for
Charlie Waitera the
present boss but
he was absent in
New Plymouth. We
saw his son but he
was not very cordial.

We made friends of
others, One big man
took us in charged
& announced that we
wanted to buy. Many
things were brought
along, chiefly modern.
Old women brought
Mats & Kiti & various
flax-work in course
of fabrication. Men
submitted Taihai
Pounders, Preserving
pot tops & so on. At
the "boss house" I
entered a large room
50 feet long with
bundles of clothing
disposed around the
walls & scattered

in different parts. In
turn these bundles
became animated &
we were greeted with
Tenakotu from the
women who for the
most part rolled
themselves up again
Some of them yawned
& tumbled out or
rather off. All had
bare legs and in fact
few wore boots & none
stockings. All the
Maories, (Men Women
& Children) seem to
smoke. Later in the
same room the old
people gathered in
one part and played

Quehre, and here
also two women
scraped flax with a
mussel shell & soon
revealed fine fibre
which they threw into
a dish of water. All
in the room squatted
on the floor which
was covered with
mats, but Oiletoth
formed the dado, there
being no Tuka-tuka
or other form of
native decoration.

By this time we
had thoroughly gained
the good graces of
the people and the
boys took us to
the billiard room

where we found 2
tables in use. The
walls were hung with
English prints, those
representing the Boer
war being greatly in
evidence. They had
a print of Nelson
at Trafalgar & they
asked me about the
flag, I told them
all I knew & they
crowded round me
to hear of the great
Pakeha. They were
much interested in
the armless sleeve &
closed eye etc. The
large living room above
mentioned was hung
with pictures of Maori

chiefs and episodes
of the Maori war.

We were next taken
to another large house,
and here all the
maudens assembled
& treated us to three
very long "Poi" dances"
the monotonous droning
& storic expression
being rather depressing.

Between the dances
the men addressed the
assembly and some
of them appeared to
be eloquent. Sparkes
and I were provided
with chairs, all the
others squatted. An
interval was called
& long tablecloths

were spread upon the
ground and milkless
tea & sour bread served
an alternative being
biscuit which I chose.

When I put away
my chair & Squatted
next a dusky damsel
they all laughed and
shouted "kaipai" -
After the "dance" the
girls Squatted round
the walls. Old women
with white hair &
with European shawls
over their shoulders
crooned to themselves
and sat cross-legged,
bending forward with
their elbows on their



knees. After
a time,
first one
and then
another would
lie flat upon the
ground, still smoking.
Finally dropping off
to sleep. It was not
for a long time that
I discovered babies
among the party.
One awoke and cry-
ing from under its
swathing of clothes
announced its desire
to be fed. This was
accomplished while
the mother lay at
full length & the
baby went to sleep

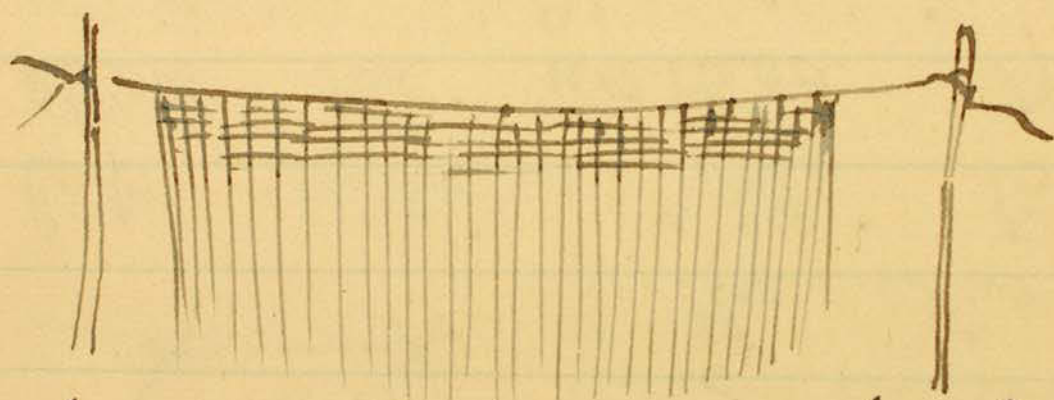
again. The women were quite unconcerned at the presence of ourselves & other men, and were unconscious of the delicacy a European woman would feel in exposing her breasts. The amount of coughing prevalent was most distressing, for the room, though large, was very low and crowded. The absence of ventilation & the air reeking with tobacco smoke made us long to get outside and we were glad

when the meeting
terminated. If the
lives of the Maories
are to be preserved
the people should be
taken in hand for
it is more than pro-
bable that consump-
tion is ripe among
them. They live
nidoos and out with
bare feet & walked
through ice - cold
puddles unmindful
of the results. Two
(aival?) Chiefs died
but a short time
ago and each has
followers, and the
partisans of Te hou
do not associate

with those of Te White.
The latter was buried
4 months ago just in
front of his house
in the square. a
concrete pedestal is
now in course of
erection by a half-
caste, & the Maories
seemed to be proud
that the artist of
such a noble structure
should have Maori
blood in him. We
soon learned that these
people are susceptible
to flattery & they
are doubtless easily
hurt. They exhibited
their houses "same

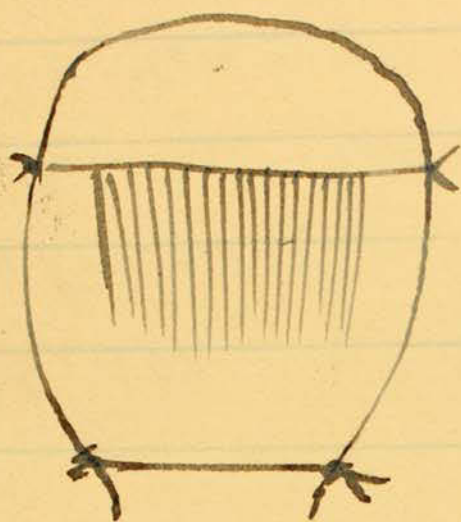
as "Whiteman", their
cattle "Same as
Pakeha" and their
broad acres, "all
belong to Maori all
Same Whiteman".

In mat making
the women place 2
sticks in the ground
& work the mat on



strings of flax stretched
between them. When
not in use, a cover
is thrown over the
work to keep it clean.
One very old woman

was working with a
supple-jack frame



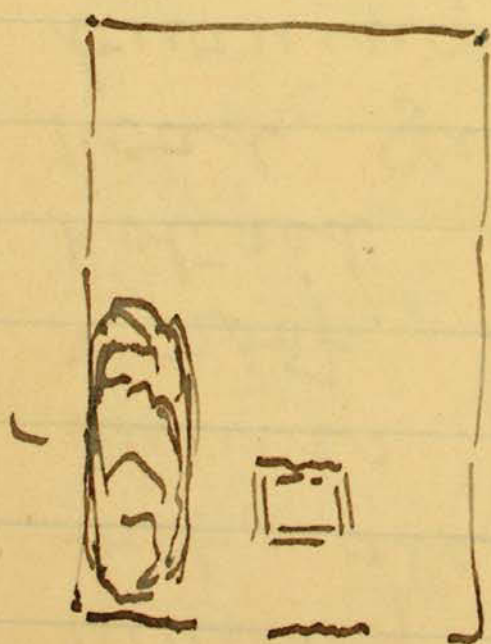
not fixed
to the
ground.

We
bought
the whole

lot unfinished to
show the method of
working. The springy
ends were tied to-
gether and another
string was stretched
to support the work.

Other old women
came toddling out of
their houses with
work for sale, but
we had got what

we wanted. The houses are small + dark the door & single window being in the front. They are begrimed with smoke and a few mats (or none) are thrown about the floor. A bundle of mats + clothes near the door is the bed



and a square sink of stones in the centre near the door holds the fire.

the smoke escapes
mainly by the door
but also through
cracks in the walls
& roof. At night we
noticed that a red
road guard lamp was
burning over Te Whiti's
tomb and we also
discovered that it
was kept alight by
daytime also - it
evidently fulfilled
some sacred or other
ceremonial office.

The feeling between
the Tohūtīs and the
Te Whitiites runs high
but both welcome the
Pākehā. The former

entertained while
the latter boarded us.

The Maories pondered
over my name 'wai'
being familiar and
common in many
names associated
with water. They
laughingly declared I
was Maori.

14. Tues.

Rose early and left
the settlement about
6.30 before anyone
was stirring. After
we left & walking
to the Hawera, - New
Plymouth road we
saw one or two men
and some $3/4$ starved
dogs accompanied

us and scoured the
country all round
in apparently vain
search for food. We
had some heavy rain
& the coach picked
us up at 8.30. We
had a most uncomfor-
table ride, overcrowded
& containing 3 selfish
& inconsiderate foot-
ballers. We got nothing
to eat until 1.30 -
When we reached New
Plymouth I felt sick
& essayed dinner but
it was a failure.
Sent collections made
to Wellington. Went
down to the beach

* Saw Maori women
collecting Mussels
limpets, crabs and
echinoderms which
they gathered to eat
without cooking. They
were wading to the
middle of the thigh
in ice cold water.

Left for the Breakwater
by 8.10 pm train for
the Steamer Rotoiti.

Sailed about 9.0 &
being ill I expected
to have a bad time.

However soon after
we started the sick
feeling passed off &
I had a good
night's sleep.

15. Wed.

Arrived at Auckland
at 9.30. from Onehunga.
Visited Craig and Larsen
& made purchases -
Saw Beattie also a
representative of the
N. Z. Graphic (Gordon)
he accompanied the
"Nora Niven" on her
Bay of Islands trip
& gave me papers
containing photos
he had published.
He said that he had
largely culled the
letterpress from my
articles in the "Press".
Sent telegram to Rose
& received reply.

Spent evening at
Fullers with Sparkes.
16. Thurs.

Left at 10. am for
Rotorua and arrived
at 5.50. Took coach
tickets for Whakatane
the first stage for
Opotiki.

17. Fri

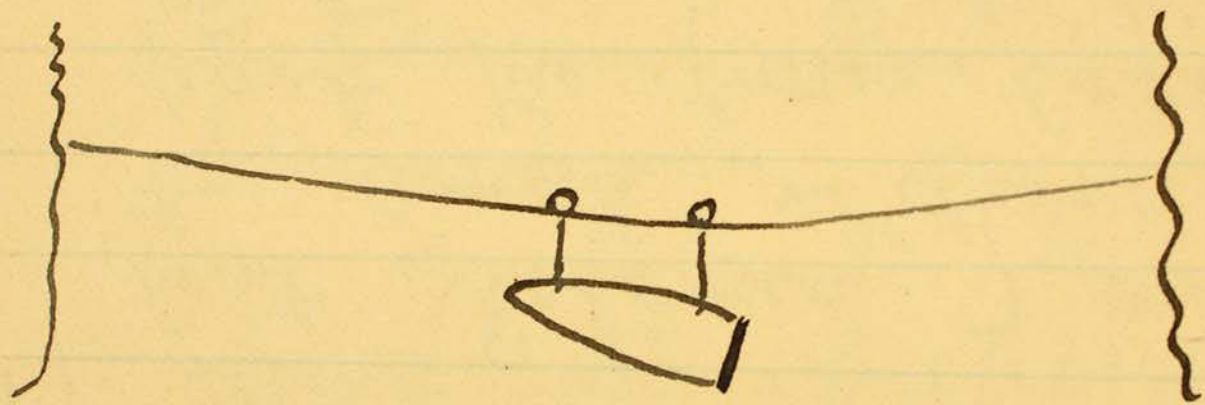
Left Rotorua 7. am
by coach & drove
past the four lake
Rotorua, Rotoiti,
Rotokahu & Rotoma.

Very cold & windy
& ice on the roads

Saw 2 or 3 coveys &
quail (Australian).

Arrived at Te Teko
about 2 pm. Changed

horses and crossed
the river in a large
punt accommodating
coach and horses -
It was worked solely
by the flow of the
river - a wire rope



stretched across the
water being firmly
secured at both banks
the punt runs on
the lower side of
the stream & is
attached by 2 guys
on pulleys. One for

- and one is kept short so that the punt presents an incline to the flow. & is thus propelled. The pulleys slip along the wire by jerks as the angle the ropes make overcome the resistance on the spanning wire.

. As we approached the Whakataue river some Maories were preparing (possibly) for a tangi. As we passed in the coach a pig was struck on the head with the back of an axe & was probably

then stuck. The
mails were taken over
the river in a dug-
out canoe, the Maori
standing in the stern
and poling. The
passengers were ferried
in 3 trips in a
rowing punt. We
reached Whakataue at
5.30. & put up for
the night. Whale
Is. which I had
seen from the trawler
lies close to Whakataue

18. Sat.

Yesterday we had
coached 80 miles &
we left this day
at 8 am for Opatiki.

Passed through great
diversity of country,
mountain passes, mud
flats and sea beach.
We had six miles of
beach and saw two
frost-fishes coming
ashore. They seemed
to be writhing help-
lessly and were
carried further in-
shore by each suc-
ceeding wave. We
could not wait, but
the driver intended
to pick them up on
his return. In one
place the sea sand
was very loose, so
we walked to ease
the horses. Striding

ahead, I disturbed a flock of gulls at the carcass of a frofish

The ferry crossing at the estuary at Ohuwa is said to be sensational at times but we had a fairly easy time & picked up another coach on the further side. We had a mile of mud-flat but as the tide was high, the water was above the axles.

At Ohuwa we saw 4 frofishes hanging at the hotel and we learned that examples had been washed up

in various places
along the beach.
Kingfishers numerous
also Dolterel and
Grey Heron. Reached
Opotiki at 12.30 &
after dinner I called
on Flower. He took
us round to several
people likely to help
us. As a result we
hired horse & trap
& drove 8 miles to
Weilweka, a Maori
settlement. It is
approached for the
greater part by a
straight road, very
English-like. The
hedges are thorn

and Blackbirds and
Thrushes were feeding
on the berries. Larks
flitted before us on
the road and flocks
of yellowammers rose
everywhere. Greenfinches
& Chaffinches peopled
the hedges and the
sparrow was in usual
evidence. Of native
birds we saw only
Harriers, Fantails &
the self introduced
Silver-eye, or Blight
Bird as it is
called in N. Zealand.
We found some
mice whares at the

Ja, one contained
good tuka-taka, not
for sale. We bought
some nice carvings
including Teko. teko,
slabs, and the prow
of an old canoe.
We purchased a lot
of Kaka sticks. An
old man, 86 years
of age, was the most
highly tattooed I
have seen. Fabulous
prices are asked for
things but they can
generally be had
at fairly low figures.

One of the whares
is used as a church
and we discovered

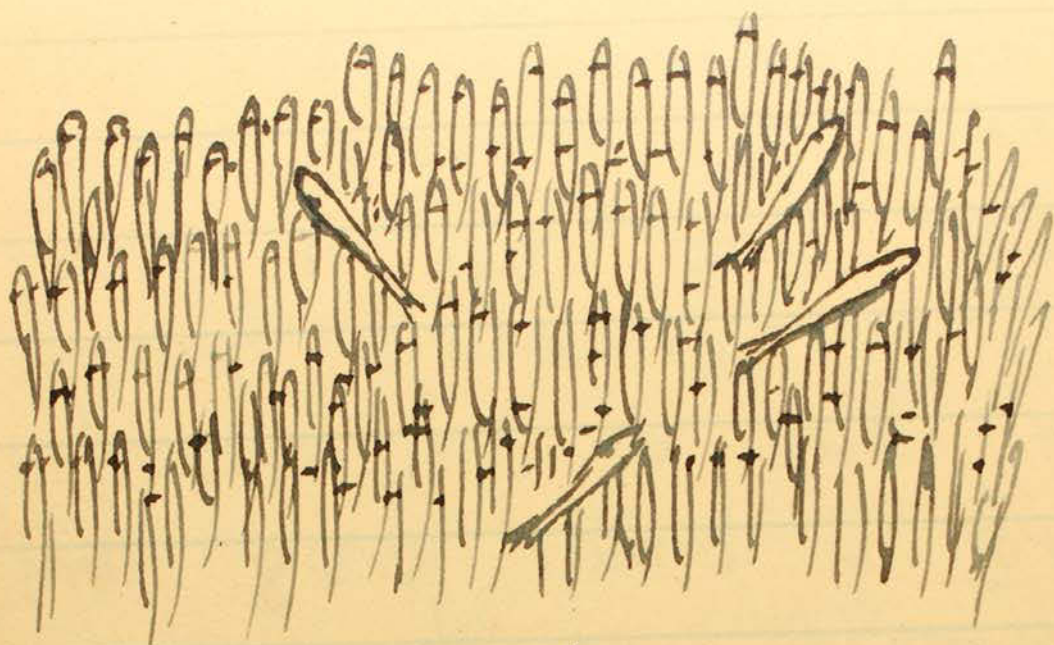
The native pastor
sitting in the porch
reading what was
probably the bible in
Maori. He stolidly
declined to allow us
to see the church, but
would not speak,
merely shaking his
head. Met Dr. Hallen
at Opoitiki, he is in
practice and I
learned that he had
lived in Fiji and
that I had met
him in Sydney. He
being the man who
drew my attention
to the label in the

Museum. Crocodilus
porosus. Fiji & led
me to publish the
note on the subject.

19. Sun.

During an early
stroll, I noticed the
river to be chock
full of Anacharis
a few fishes moving
among it. I did
not, for a moment,
entertain any doubt
about the plant &
sharks also accep-
ted the situation.
I became simultaneously
conscious that the
free ends of the plants
were not lying down-

stream and that these
same plants were, in
reality, fishes. They
were headed up-stream
quite motionless but
a few breaking the
regimental exactitude
of situation, swam
across the others &
these I had seen
were fishes. The il-
lusion was perfect,
~~the broadened end~~
~~of the stalks standing~~
~~for the heads of~~
~~the fishes standing~~
~~for the broadened~~
~~ends of the stalks of~~
the Anacharis

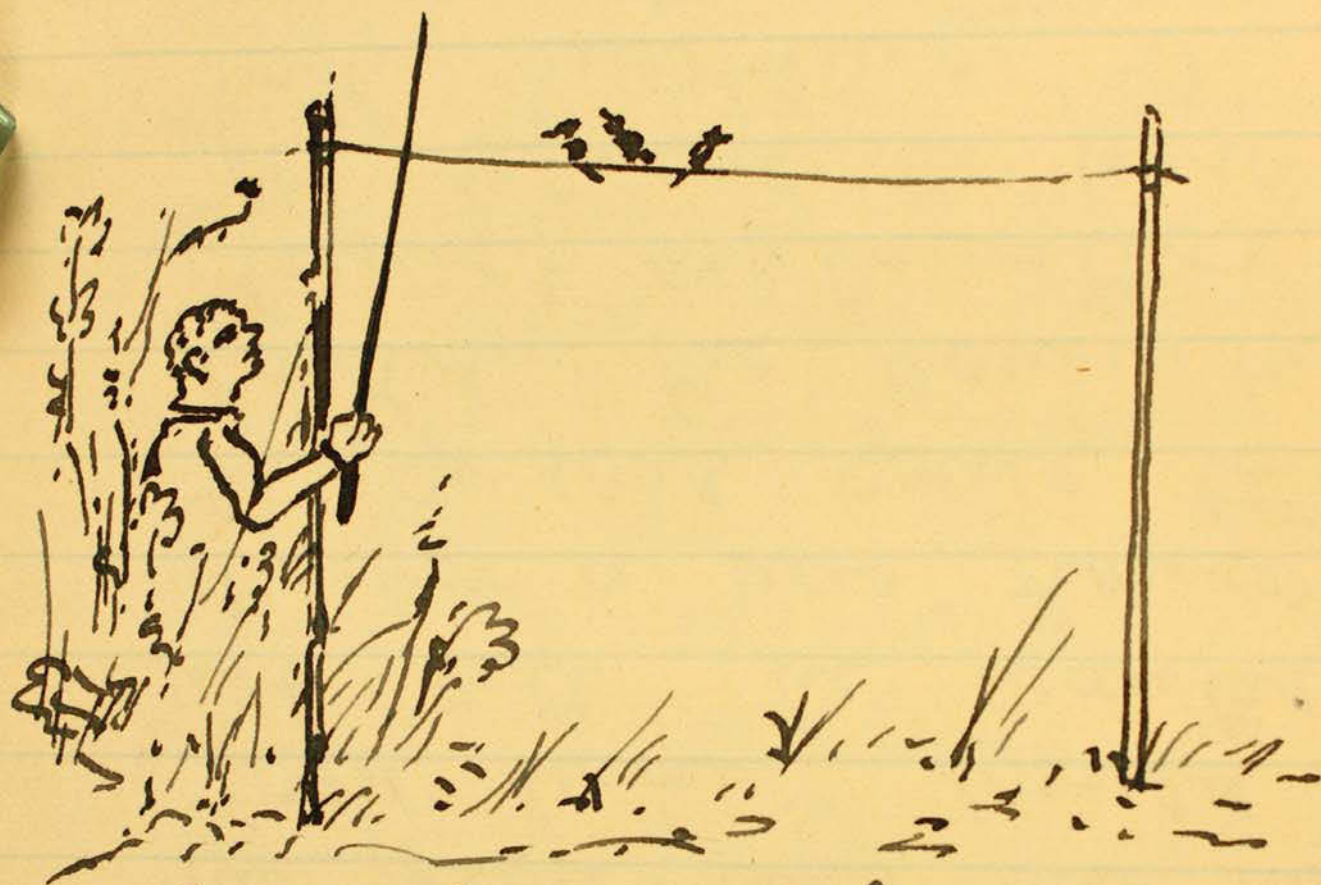


We were standing on a bridge looking down stream and the color was exactly that of the Anacharis. The people said the fishes were herrings, they were probably young mullet. They were about 5 inches long and were present in myriads. Having a conveyance and 2

horses we left
Opotiki at 8.30 and
negotiated abominable
roads to Nukolo 18
miles distant. The
settlement is a small
one and we obtained
nothing, our record
for the day. We next
drove to Waiotahi &
visited 2 settlements
about 3 miles apart
The only bit of carving
we saw was a tēko
representing a dog (kuri)
head downwards, its
tail in the air. There
were many kumara
pits all turned over.
and apparently of

old date. All the
settlements visited ap-
pear to be poor and
the women were doing
the hard work, such
as flax-cutting &
carrying firewood. I
offered £2-10-0 for
the Kuri-toko but the
"Old man" would
not sell, he wanted
it for a new house
he ~~is~~ was going to
build. The common
(lying) explanation
for refusal to part-
with anything. I
was shown a bird-
stick, also not for
sale, "belonged to
my grandfather"

This was merely a
smooth plain and
rounded stick, 8



feet long. It was
used thus, according
to the account given.
Two posts were placed
upright in the ground
and a string stretched
between their upper
ends. One post was

surrounded with
brushwood, and con-
cealing himself in
this, the Maori
"called" small birds
by whistling. When
they settled on the
horizontal string, he
swiftly passed the
bird-stick along the
string and so hit
the birds. I was
told that the poverty
of the natives in this
district is due to
the prophet Rua, who
has pretty well
"fleece" them. All
are "Hau Hau" and
the wind enters into
their ceremonies.

Like Parihaka Maories,
these were people
were followers of Te
Kuti. We returned
to our hotel at 4:30
much disappointed
at our want of luck
Spent the evening
with Flower at his
house -

20. Mon.

With the same trap
as yesterday we left
Opotiki at 7.15 and
drove 17 miles east-
ward to Torrore, 9
of which were along
the beach. White
Island was in view
most of the time

and a smaller island
near to it came into
view, disappeared, and
showed up again
in a very surprising
manner. This took
place several times
and seemed of the
nature of a mirage.
it was further away
than White Island
and above the level
of its sea level.

We first interviewed
Miss King, aged 24
and weighing 22
stones, she was very
kind and told us
that the old whare
had been pulled
down and all the

carwings taken by
Worbrick to Rotorua.
Taking off our coats
we got to work &
raised the heavy
timbers. After some
labour we got out
6 pieces of Tuka-tuka
Other pieces we could
not recover & some
of it was rotten,
owing to damp. The
Maories were not
wicked to give any
assistance but a
little silver scattered
around produced
some help. Returning
we called at Opopi
and Oamaruuta

Here we saw a Kumara
put door, with 2
figures on it and
another with one.
The latter I obtained
& carried it off,
leaving the food store
doorless. When we
got back to Opothi
we had some tucker,
our first feed since
early breakfast. We
had done very well
& then went off to
Terrere, a futile
excursion. After
dinner (6.0) we
spent £15 on some
things with Larmer.
including 2 bone
meat, an axe with

ornate handle. 3
preserving pat- tops
pounder etc - we
did well to-day &
exploited all the Pas
in the district with
the exception of Wai-
manna. It would
take too long to go
there, our coach
leaving tomorrow.

21. Tues.

Packed our collections
a case which had
contained a coffined
corke serving good
purpose. Being told
that there were some
old window posts in
the town we looked-

up the owner and
secured the pair for
£4. The view finder
of the film camera
having been ill-
adjusted and proving
unsatisfactory, I
borrowed a screwdriver
& improved the setting
Took a photo of
Rev Valkner's grave
placed behind his
church. It is the
only grave there.
Having been associa-
-ted with the Maories
& then during the
war sympathising
with the Pakeha,
he was regarded as

a traile^r, & hung on
a tree, his head
was cut off and
placed on the pulpit
desk, the eyes were
gouged out- and
swallowed and the
desk still bears
evidence of blood
stains. Loop-holes
were cut in the
walls of the Church
& though now made
good, their position
is apparent.

Left Opatiki by
coach at 12.30 and
when driving across
the beach was told
that a man had

picked up 14 frost-
frohes as he rode
along 2 or 3 days before.
Shortly after leaving
the beach we passed
Te Kootis buggy left
close to where he
died and this being
"Tapu" will be left
to rot where it stands.
Saw large numbers of
kingfishers in this
district and near the
top of a very high
bluff noticed their
nesting holes. A cock
pheasant ran up the
sandhills from the
beach and Dotterel,
Herons, Oyster catchers
& Gulls peopled the

water's edge. After a
23 miles drive, over
broken country we
once more reached Whak-
ataue arriving at
4.45.

22. Wed.

Left Whakataue 7. am
for Rotorua. Lunched
at Rotōma, and saw
Black swans on the
lake. Saw several Bitterns
in the swamps miles
of which we drove
across. Chaffinches were
more numerous along
this drive than any-
where else I have been
in N.Z. All the roads
are thick with ejetā-

ments, erupted from
Tarawera during the
cataclasm of 1886.
Arrived at Rotorua
about 5.0 and found
Telegrams and letters
awaiting me. Dore
enclosed letters from
Hülseu & Kilburn Scott.
There were also two
letters from Chairman.
After tea we walked
to Sanatorium. and
had general look round.

23. Thurs

Took this day on my
own account & left
by coach at 7. am.
for the "round trip,"
visiting the Blue and

green lakes. Launch
for 8 miles across Lake
Tarawera, then walk
to Lake Rotomahana,
the hot lake, which
we crossed in another
launch, visiting boiling
springs, geysers & all
etceteras, fully detailed
in the guide books. I
was charmed with all
I saw, including the
buried village Wairoa,
Tarawera mountain, the
site of former terraces
etc. While I made
the excursion Sparkes
investigated the Rotoma
district and reported
on my return. After

tea I accompanied him and made some purchases. Arranged to visit a whare tomorrow where some old guns and carvings are said to be procurable. Heavy rain in the evening.

24. Fri.

Called on Damebaerd he showed us some old carvings dug from the ruins of Waitangi these were under offer to someone and a telegram was sent to ascertain if would-be purchaser meant business. Obtained horse & buggy & picking

up a man named
Fraser we drove to
Awaho. The guns had
been sold and after
2 hours haggling we
bought the carvings
of the house which
had formerly been
occupied by Te Kooti.
Made arrangements to
remove and pay for
the carvings tomorrow.
Got back to town at
3.0. Bought and
packed carvings and
at 4.0 had a cup
of tea, the first "bite"
since breakfast.
After dinner we
called at Dannebaard

and as he had had
no reply to his wire
he sold us the old
carniv. I clucked
the matter with my
cheque for £12 which
included a teko and
an old Taihai. Letter
from Rose with news
cutting to effect that
Edgar Stead had bought
skeleton of whale &
had left with other
two men for Okarito.
wrote to Russell told
him I had bought
the whale and sug-
gested that a further
£50 be placed to
the credit of my
account. I agreed

to advise him by
telegram if we actually
obtained possession of
the wharf.

25 Sat.

Left by buggy at 8.
+ drove to Awaho.
We found the Maori
Kohoroa Paola ex-
pecting us. We got
to work removing the
heavy timbers, the
Wagoner we had
engaged assisting
us later. Working
hard we finished
about 2 O'clock and
loaded the wagon. I
paid "Paul" £40
and having photo'd

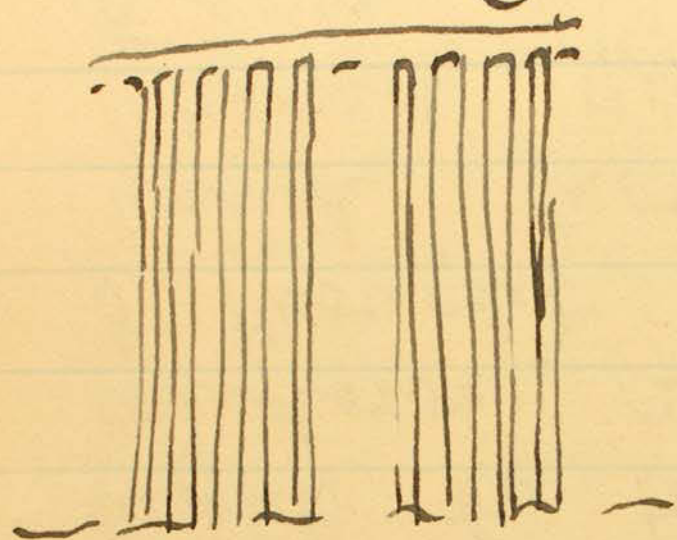
The whare intact &
in ruins we returned
to Rotorua. Saw
Dannefaerd "learned
that Hamilton was the
man to whom the
carnies had been
under offer, & that,
too late he had
telegraphed "Will take
those Carnies, even
if I have to pay
for them myself." We
had already packed
some of the stuff.

At 5.30 we met the
wagon and unloaded
at the railway.

Finished the day with
a swim in the
"Duchess" warm bath.

Each morning we have
had heavy frost at
Rotorua and it is
surprising to see the
Maori children, boys
& girls bathing in the
warm pools on the
roadside, really
in gutters carrying
overflow from hot
springs. Considering
the ice coldness of
the air the kiddies
must have felt the
keenness when
leaving their warm
bath. All the ice
on the roads in this
district has peculiar

structure, standing
up in columns an
inch to $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches
in height. The



crystals
join at
the top
& form
an even
surface

with cracks or holes
in places. This
formation was to be
seen everywhere and
when occurring on
banks on the side
of the road stood
out at an angle.
Whether this strange
form is due to
exudation & freezing

of vapour I could
only conjecture as
I don't remember
to have seen anything
like it elsewhere -
Met Nelson Illingworth
in town he is at
work on a bust of
Maggie.

26. Sun.

I was awakened last
night by the doors &
windows rattling, by
I thought, a rising
wind. however it
passed quickly. in
5 or 6 minutes, the
rattling & shaking
occurred again and I

with greater violence
& I fancied that I
felt the bed shake.
I knew that I had
experienced my first
earthquake in N. 2.
In the morning I
found that others,
Sparkes included, had
a similar experience
After breakfast we
walked to Whakarewarewa
& back. Visited geysers,
terraces and pools &
called on Illingworth.
Had a chat with
Maggie and arranged
for purchase of a
fine large carved
slab. In afternoon

visited Ohinemutu, took
photo. of Sunken Pa.
and large whare with
Maories congregated for
the Sunday afternoon
meeting.

27. Mon

Another day of hard
work. Collected our
purchases fr. various
places. Went to Whaka.
obtained the large slab
engaged carpenters &
we spent rest of day
at railway goods shed
packing carvings -
wound up ~~at~~ the day
Trip to Chiniatown -
Vernon & de Lotté.

very freely treated for
a provincial audience

28. Tues

Left Rotorua at 8 am
by coach for Tauranga
all along the morning
route the ice on the
ground presented the
same character as
before noted. Drove
through Mungarewa
gorge and shortly
thereafter broke the
main beam - tree
of the coach. This
was patched up with
rope and further
repaired at the half
way house where we
lunched. Arrived

at Jauranga 4:30.
Called on several
people and saw some
local collections.

29. Wed.

Our luck in having
fine weather, fully
maintained. Telegraphed
to Russell and he
replied, wiring £25.
Visited Parthworks &
Redoubt constructed
by the British, also
Cemetery containing
Soldiers' graves. We
walked towards Gate
Pa and noticed Cows
on the road each
wearing a collar. It

appears that this
wandering is permitted
on public highways
on payment of a fee
of 10/- for each animal
yearly and registration
number is engraved
on the collar. Lemons
and oranges growing
freely in this district.

In the afternoon
we visited Mount
Munganni, engaging
a fishing boat with
auxiliary engine. The
mount is 980 feet
high & we ascended
to the top, where I
flushed a hen
pheasant. In the

evening we saw
some more collections
and some examples
were given to us. They
were taken on the
sandhills which yield
good things at times
30. Thurs.

At 8.0 am we left
Tauranga by coach
for Waikī - The
scenery was scarcely
interesting, and the
only incident serving
to break the monotony
was furnished in
crossing a bridge -
some new transverse
planking was being
put down but was

not wholly fixed -
The off-side leader
swerved inward &
forced the rear horse
on to the unsupported
ends of the planks,
two of which tipped
up. The already
scared leader be-
came frantic, the
shaft horses cleared
the gap by good luck
but we were within
an inch of being
thrown down the em-
bankment. We were
conscious that some-
thing untoward had
happened when the
coach wheels crossed

the gap, and an inspection was made as soon as the horses were quietened. A broken spring was patched up with rope.

Reached Waihi at 4.0 and having 2 hours to wait, we stroll around. Visited the pit brow of one of the Waihi Gold mines. Left at 6.5 changed at Paero to what is called the "Wild Cat train" consisting of scores of trucks containing chiefly coal, and one passenger carriage.

I slept through the greater part of what was a bumpy journey and reached Te Aroha at 8.30. (Palace Hotel.)

31. Fri.

After seeing the gardens and all else of interest at Te Aroha we departed by train at 11.30 and reached Auckland at 5.0. We discussed plans en route and decided that available money was insufficient to enable us to go to the Bay of Islands. Concluded the day at 'Fuller's.'

August.
1. Sat.

Took tram to Mount Eden and ascended to view the crater. Then walked to Harlet St & called on Suler. Returning to the city I called on Doune & asked him if he would let me have the old & discarded carniery at Rotorua. Spent greater part of afternoon at the Art Gallery especially the Grey Collection which, however much requires re-arranging. Bought a second-hand Kodak

film developing tank
and some pamphlets
on N.Z. The Weekly
Press of July 29th.
contains photo. and
my article on the
Quinnat Salmon.

2. Sun.

After breakfast we
took tram to One-
hunga & returned
by train. Spent
afternoon at Museum
thence to the Library
Park, Band etc.

3. Mon.

Bought "Scientific
American Cyclopaedia"
10/- Left Auckland
at 10 am. notwithstanding —
standing attractions

offered next week by
visit of the American
Fleet. Arrived at
Taumaranui at 6:50

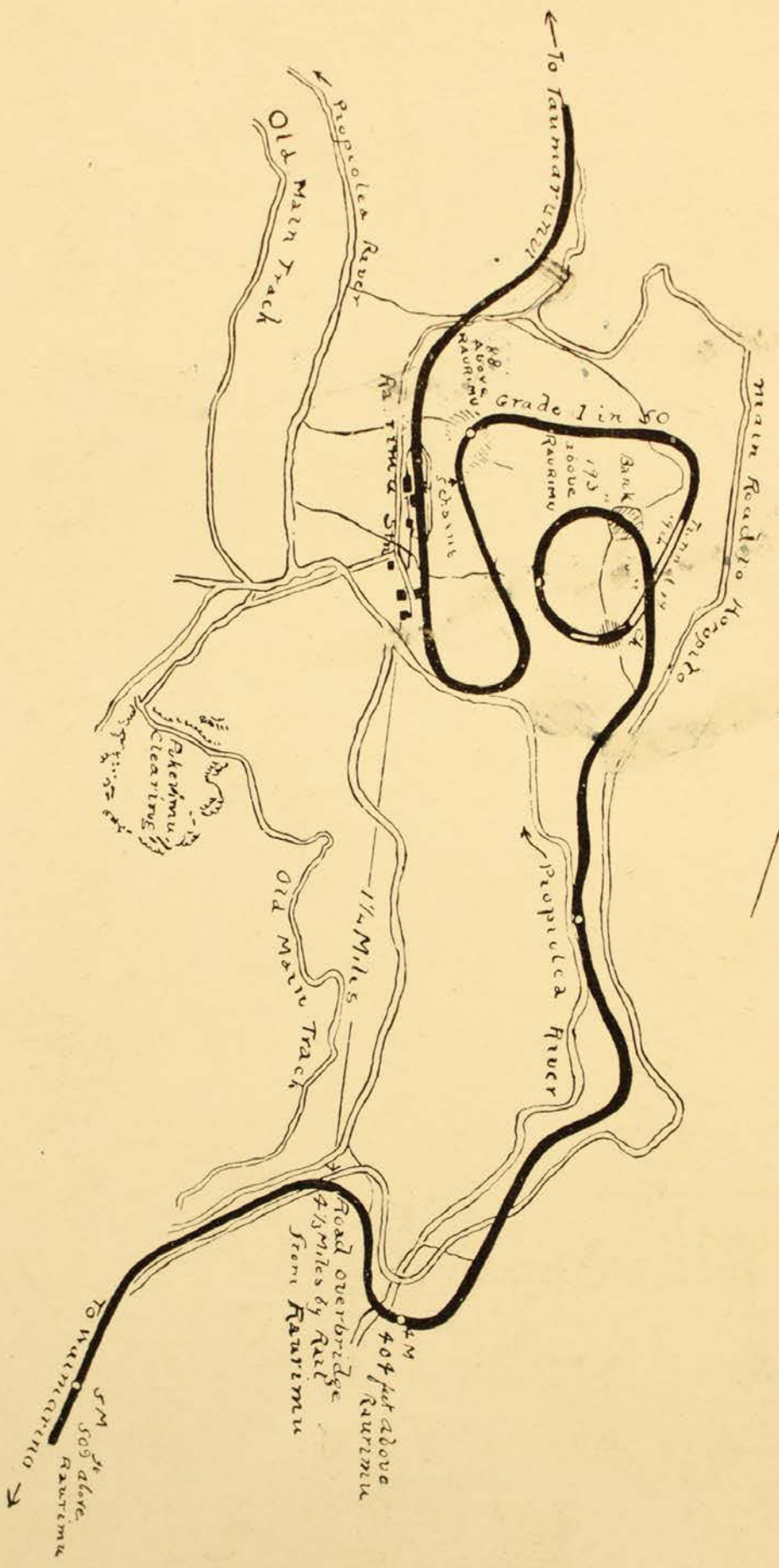
4. Tues.

Left Taumaranui at
6.45. am by Public
works line for which
our tourist tickets
were not available.
Passed through a
place named OIO,
locally called "Kought-
ten". At Raurimu
we commenced the
ascent of the Spiral
in which the train
travels $4\frac{1}{3}$ miles
to cover $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile
crow-fly. In this

distance we rise
404 feet, pass through
a tunnel and then
over it. At Wai-
marino the height
above sea level is
2636 ft and we
found it very cold.
Walked across the
Maketote viaduct, just
completed. It is 268
ft in height and a
stone dropped over
the parapet reached
the water in about
 $5\frac{1}{2}$ seconds. While
the coach went by
the road we continued
our walk along the
line to the Mangamui-
o-te-Ao Viaduct

- N. I. M. T. Ry -

Plan of Spiral at Raurimu.



- Scale: 20 chains = 1 Inch -

W. Beattie & Co., Publishers.

Auckland, N.Z.

[222]

beyond which we
came to the point
where the lines con-
necting Auckland and
Wellington were laid
in the morning and
over which the first
train was run. I
took photos of the spot
also one with train
& contractor (Andersen)
for the Viaduct. Had
fine view of mountains
clothed with snow from
summit to base. On
the east at but a
few miles distant

Tongariro
Ngarohoe
Ruapehu
Ohongatahe

On the west at much
greater distance Mt
Egmont. Ruapehu
was particularly im-
pressive and showed
its summit, even
when we were down
the gullies, vividly
evidencing its great
height. At Waihora
we left the Public
works line, thence
travelled over Govern-
ment lines to Tai-
hape. Arrived at
7. pm. This proved
to be a long but
very interesting day.

5. Wed.

Left Taihape at 6 am
cold and wet. On
arrival at Marton,
where we changed,
we discussed and
altered our plans. It
was originally inten-
ded to proceed via
the Manawatu line
and break journey
at Levin to inspect
Buller's house. In
consequence of the
heavy rain we
elected to go through.
Our tourist tickets
being thus available
and terminating this
day. Also changed

at Palmerston thence
through Manawatu
Gorge to Woodville,
where once more we
changed trains and
arrived at Wellington
at 7.20 and caught
the Maori, sailing
at 8.0.

6. Thurs

Passengers said we
had had a bad
trip, and indeed it
was blowing big
guns when we left
Wellington but I
slept through it all
and knew nothing
until we were hearing
Lyttelton Harbour.

Went to Museum in
the afternoon.

Mr Edgar F. Stead, in conjunction with Mr R. Turnbull, of Wellington, has purchased the whale that went ashore on the Westland beach near Okarito a few months ago. Mr Stead will leave Christchurch for Okarito tomorrow morning to arrange for getting the skeleton and having it transported to Christchurch. The great sea-mammal, which is believed to be one of the largest known, is now buried in 6ft or 7ft of sand. Mr Stead will engage a gang of men to dig out the bones and get them ready for transport. It is expected that this work will occupy more than three weeks. Some time ago an effort was made to secure the skeleton for Canterbury Museum, and Mr E. R. Waite, the curator, went to the West Coast with that object, but the expense and other considerations led the museum authorities to relinquish the scheme. The skeleton will be sold by the present owners. No definite arrangements have been made in regard to its disposal, but it is expected that some steps will be taken to have it retained in the dominion.

THE OKARITO WHALE.

The huge whale which was cast ashore near Okarito, in Southern Westland, some five or six months ago has been purchased as it lies on the beach by Mr Edgar F. Stead and a Wellington gentleman. The price is not mentioned, but it is understood to bear very small relation to the amount that it will cost to land the skeleton in Lyttelton. The task of securing the skeleton would in any case be one of considerable magnitude; but under the circumstances it will probably be found to present unexpected difficulties. A portion of the whale is buried six feet deep in the sand washed round it by the waves, and a good deal of excavating between tides will be necessary, with the possibility that the next tide may render the work useless. The whale measures 87ft in length and 16ft in depth, and its weight is estimated at 150 tons. When it is also remembered that it has been dead for quite a long while, it will be recognised that the work of separating the flesh from the bones will be neither easy nor pleasant. Mr Stead leaves to-morrow, with three friends, Messrs Walker (2) and J. H. Clayton, for Okarito to undertake the job. The party are taking an extensive equipment of gorse knives and hay knives for cutting up the blubber, hooks for dragging it away, blocks and tackle for lifting the huge bones, and, it is said, a store of Jeyes' Fluid, for purposes which will be obvious to anyone who has ever been within range of a dead whale. Mr Stead and his friends will camp close to the scene of operations, which is some six miles along the beach from Okarito, and expect to be away for five weeks. The future destination of the skeleton, if their efforts are successful, is at present undecided, but it may be mentioned that a skeleton of such enormous size is to be found in very few of the great museums of the world.

[230]

7. Fri.
Paid White's 7/- for
removal £7-9-0
and Gibson's Medical
attendance 12/- and
Sandlén's dentist 2/-
developed Main
trunk Rail. photos
& handed to 'Press'.

8. Sat.
Received U.S. Fishery
Publications, being
in exchange for my
papers given to the
'Albatross'. Letter
from Hornum. Cooper
wants sundry things
doing. Quoits with
Cresswell in the
afternoon.

9. Sun.

Developed more films by tank process, but don't care for it. Got some bubbles on the negatives and spilt the films. Took Rose round gardens in afternoon & saw the Aquarium erected there.

10. Mon.

Developed balance of films in strip. They are fair, all round.

11. Tues.

Syllabus for Popular Lectures is, I am, glad to write, filled.

13. Thurs.

wrote Wilfrid, Halsen
+ Etheridge. Went to
lecture on Elec. Light.
One of Popular series
poorly rendered.

14. Fri.

Photod Carving ob-
tained during tour.

15. Sat.

Sent out invitation
to Committee to in-
spect Carving before
meeting on Thursday.
Spent afternoon with
Creswell, at Quoits.

16. Sun.

Took Claude round
the gardens, fish
hatchery etc.

17. Mon.
Wrote report on
collecting tour for
Committee.

Respecting the long fish, recorded in yesterday's "Press," as having been taken at the Croixelles, Mr Edgar R. Waite informs us that it is, without doubt, an example of the Ribbon or Oar Fish. Though these fishes may be twenty feet or more in length, and from ten to twelve inches in depth, their bodies are only an inch or two thick, and the name Ribbon Fish is applied in reference to this peculiarity. The name Oar Fish is given in allusion to the paddle-like expansions which terminate the long ventral fins. Eight or nine examples have been recorded from our waters, and they are nowhere common, being known mainly from dead specimens floating on the surface of the sea, or thrown ashore by the waves. They are generally believed to be inhabitants of the deep sea, and examples observed alive off the Scandinavian coasts, in shallow water, were probably in process of being washed ashore.

19. Wed.

Arranged exhibits for
Committee meeting to-
morrow.

20. Thurs.

Committee inspected
the N. J. Collections.

Took Rose & Claude
to Cinematograph
pictures

21. Fri.

Goldfitch Sen. called
to see me, he has
just been appointed
Keeper of Resolution
Island.

22. Sat.

Played Quoits with
Cresswell in afternoon
Cinematograph again

23. Sun.

At Museum in the morning. Joined a house party and we attended at Catholic Church in evening. This is the first time I have been inside a Church since I was married. How can anyone attend when told that ones reasoning capacity must be stultified - faith - forsooth -

24 Mon

Attended Council Meet. of C. P. J. & appointed convenor of Sub-Comm. to consider visit to Chatham Is.

Gave pressmen details
of Collecting tour.

25. Dues.

Letter from Mrs W.
also from Etheridge,
the latter tells me
that A. J. N has been
removed from the
Staff, and is now
on contract work &
that E. P. R has been
asked to resign.

There are only two
applicants for the
Assistantship & the
trustees are "turning
the matter over"
but nothing can be
done till the estimates
are through.

MAORI CURIOS.

ADDITION TO MUSEUM COLLECTION.

One of the most interesting courts in the Canterbury Museum is that in which is exhibited the collection of Maori curios and relics of the New Zealand which preceded the dawn of civilization. There is some peculiar fascination for the palatists in the quaint and fantastic art and customs of the former lords of these isles, and the fascination grows with the contemplation and examination of things which are typical of their lives and habits. Regret has frequently been expressed that the exhibits in the Maori house at the Museum were not more comprehensive, especially in view of the fact that the demand for New Zealand curios and historic relics was not confined to the small part of the world. It will be gratifying to the public to know that substantial additions have recently been made to the collection, which will add to its interesting features, and make it more valuable from an educational, as well as an ethnological, point of view.

During the past few months, the collection in the Maori House at the Museum has been re-arranged, and a system of classification adopted. The classification necessitated the provision of further space for the exhibits, and to meet the demand a number of new glass cases, constructed from the material purchased from the Exhibition authorities, were introduced. These were placed in an upright position above the old cases, and they are now well filled with Maori curios. While the contents of the Maori House were being overhauled for the purpose of classification, it was realized that there were many "blanks" in certain directions—in short, that the collection, though not without merit, was not as complete as it might be. With a view of adding to the store, and as far as possible filling the blanks with typical Maori curios, the Director (Mr. Edgar R. Waito) and Taxidermist (Mr. W. Sparkes) recently made a tour of the North Island. They visited Hawke's Bay, Taranaki, Auckland, Rotorua, Bay of Plenty, and went from Taranaki to Opoitiki and beyond. The collection which they gathered together indicates that their mission has been an eminently successful one.

The most important acquisition is a whare which was once the property of the famous Te Kooti, chief and prophet. It is believed that the whare, which was brought from Rotorua, was built in 1820, but, in spite of its age, most of the timber is in an excellent state of preservation. Some of the carved pillars which have been exposed to the elements for over half a century have suffered, but the best work has been preserved. The carvings are bolder and more ornate than those on the existing Maori house, and, on the whole, the old chief's whare is considered a much superior specimen of Maori work. The rafters of the whare are decorated with silver-coloured scrollwork, typically native in design. The whare was lined with "tokatoka," a native lattice work, and this will be used to line the interior of the Maori house. Genuine tokatoka is very difficult to secure in these days, so the specimen purchased for the Museum is extremely valuable.

A number of old and mossy or less grotesque carvings were picked up in different places, and they now repose, with Te Kooti's dismantled whare, in the workshop attached to the Museum. Prominent in the curious medley of Maori ingenuity is a particularly fine and massive slab, bearing the characteristic figure and carving which was brought from Whakarewarewa. The carved door of a kumara pit, the fantastically ornamented pews of canoes, and building posts similarly marked, are also included in this extremely valuable and interesting collection.

One of the most valuable exhibits is a set of carved wooden carvings which are ready on view in the show-cases in the main ethnological room. An interest almost melancholy is roused by a contemplation of the disintegrating and mutilated carvings which are shown in one of the cases. The explanatory legend sets out that they were buried during the Tarawera eruption in 1886, and lately recovered from beneath the volcanic mud at Waitangi, on the shores of Lake Tarawera. The carvings are badly broken and discoloured, but one feels in looking at them that they have a history almost as unique, though not quite so ancient, as the recovered relics of Pompeii. In the adjoining case there are exhibited a number of Maori weapons. Some of them betray a peculiar mixture of the civilized and barbaric, like modern and the primitive. For instance, the most lethal weapon of the collection is a battle-axe. The handle, which might have been used as a lever, is made of whale's bone, while the head is an ordinary European axe-head. A battle-axe is a more attractive-looking weapon, but quite as murderous looking. The axe-head is of greenstone, polished and ground to a keen edge. The handle, made of whale's bone, is elaborately carved and decorated with (māori) shell. The point of the greenstone with the handle is encased with a band of feathers. Still another weapon, a paku (iron-hammer) is a combination of a European axe-head with a beautifully carved wooden handle. A more irritating-looking weapon is called a "heke," which was used by women to inflict wounds on themselves as a sign of grief at the death of a relative. It is made by binding a shark's tooth to a small wooden handle, and it looks a deviously effective instrument of self-torture. A very fine taiaha, or chief's staff, is also included in the collection. The canoe articles and net sinners of stone, which are displayed in another case, are all new to the local collector, and they form a valuable and interesting addition. The natives apparently exercised a good deal of cleverness, as well as labour, in the construction and practical application of these articles. Both aneboris and sinners are carved or grooved in order that they could be firmly tied to them, and in a few cases holes have been bored clean through the sinners for greater security in fastening. The collection also includes stone axes made, wooden fern root boaters, carved wooden bird names, a bell gable carving (koruru), flax and weather kits, and carved mouthpieces of preserving pots. The new collection, taken as a whole, is an excellent one, and it will no doubt stimulate the interest already felt in the Maori Court.

26. Wed.

C. P. I Chatham Is.
Sub. Committee met
& recommended that
the Council expend
up to £25 on the
suggested Expedition
to consist of Geologist,
Botanist & Zoologist
Spengler Loring and
myself being suggested.
Received many Vols.
Bulletins & Reports
of U.S.A. Fisheries Bureau.

27. Thurs

In response to letter
H. Gordon of N. Z.
Graphic sent me two
negatives of trawling
Expedition arranged

for 'Press' to publish
some photos of the
Maori carvings. In
response to letter from
Hiersmann. ordered
Richtenfelds "Literatur
zur Fischkunde".

28. Fri.

Made lantern slides from
10 negatives.

29. Sat

Stead called re the
whale and made a
proposal as to sale
to Museum.

30. Sun

Went for bike ride
with Brauer. At
Fendalton I saw a
large rookery in clump
of gum trees.

31. Mon.

Library Committee
of C. P. I. Museum
Board sent for me
re Whale and they
decided to vote £200
if I would raise
the balance by sub-
scription. I had
previously seen Stead
& Dr. Moorhouse -
Stead & Turnbull ask
£500 but with each
give £50 contribution
this makes £200
for me to raise.
At night I wrote
article on Blind
Sel for Press -

September

1. Tues.

Sent in article on
Blind Zel. Resumed
work on Sub-antarctic
fishes.

2. Wed.

Wrote circular letter
re whale and had
200 copies printed.
Received from Junk,
the following, previously
ordered:—

Steindachner. Ichth.

Mittheil. I-IX.

Poey. Pescos de Cuba.

total 26/-

Attended C.P.I. meeting.

THE OKARITO WHALE.

SKELETON OFFERED TO THE MUSEUM.

At the meeting of the Board of Governors of Canterbury College yesterday, the following letter was discussed in committee:—

“Mr R. Turnbull, of Wellington, and myself have secured the skeleton of the whale which was stranded at Okarito. The skeleton is complete with the exception of one of the palate bones. wishing to see the skeleton in the Christchurch Museum, we make you the following offer:—

“We will sell the whale at £500 but if the money is to be raised by public subscription, Mr Turnbull and myself will head the list with a subscription of £50.

“Seeing the size of the whale and the fact that we have already received enquiries about the skeleton from America we do not think that we are by any means over-estimating its value at £500. This price is for the skeleton landed in the trucks at Lyttelton. If you would prefer to do so, you could take delivery at Okarito at £20 reduction. That would effect a saving, as the transport would be cheaper for the public institution than for us as private individuals. Trusting to receive a favourable reply, I am yours, etc., Edgar F. Stead.”

The Curator of the Museum (Mr Edgar R. Waite) was present during the discussion of the letter and answered a number of questions.

On the Board resuming, it was reported that the following resolution had been arrived at:—“That this Board will devote £200 to the purchase of the whale, on condition that the balance is raised by public subscription.”

THE MUSEUM COLLECTIONS.

A SUGGESTED ADDITION.

When the report of the Curator of the Museum (Mr Edgar R. Waite) regarding the result of his recent visit to the North Island was before the Board of Governors of Canterbury College yesterday, the chairman (Mr G. W. Russell) made an interesting suggestion with regard to adding to the collections in the Museum.

Mr Russell expressed the opinion that the Board should thoroughly strengthen the Maori Department of the Museum, and said that the specimens recently added as the result of Mr Waite's visit to the North Island represented an expenditure of £255. He was of opinion that whatever could be got together illustrative of the early life of the settlers in the Dominion should be collected. They had a collection of photographs of early settlers of Canterbury, but they knew that there were other things of interest that ought to be collected. In the course of a hundred or one hundred and fifty years such a collection as he indicated would be of entrancing interest to future generations.

Mr Izard said that as the executor of the late Mr Walker, he had two or three albums of photographs, but no one knew whom the photographs represented.

Bishop Julius remarked that Mr E. W. Seager was the one most likely to help him in identifying the photographs.

Mr Izard indicated that he would probably be in a position to present the albums to the collections referred to by the Chairman.

3. Thurs.

wrote to Etheridge &
sent him newspapers.
Paid Junk for books
received yesterday.

Received first subscrip-
tions towards whale
fund. Put down 2
guineas for self.

There seems to be a
general disinclination
to subscribe, as it
would appear that
the money is going
to Stead who can
better afford to put
down money than
most of those who
are asked.

Canterbury Museum,
Christchurch,

2nd SEPTEMBER, 1908.

DEAR SIR,

THE OKARITO WHALE.

The position which our Institution occupies among Colonial Museums is too well known to the people of Christchurch to need comment, and I feel sure you will unite with me in desiring to add, to the already magnificent collections, the skeleton of a huge Blue Whale.

The Blue Whale is the largest animal which has ever existed (gigantic fossil remains notwithstanding), and as the Okarito Whale measures *eighty-seven* feet in total length, it is possibly the largest known; it is more than *thrice the size* of any whale at present in the Museum.

This enormous animal was stranded on the West Coast in February last, and I at once visited the scene to ascertain if arrangements could be made to secure the skeleton for the Museum. On returning I reported to my Board that it could be obtained, and it was thereupon decided to advertise for its removal by contract, but subsequent negotiations fell through.

Armed with full information as a result of my visit, Mr. Edgar F. Stead visited Okarito last month, and, as you are aware, secured the skeleton, which now awaits removal from the Okarito wharf.

As joint owner with Mr. R. T. Turnbull, Mr. Stead now offers the skeleton for the sum of £500, and these gentlemen will each subscribe £50 to the purchase fund. Conditionally on my raising the balance, the Board of Governors will provide £200, thus leaving a similar amount to be subscribed.

Trusting that you will kindly favour me with a donation, in aid of the fund.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

EDGAR R. WAITE,
CURATOR.

MUSEUM PURCHASES.

The chairman said that he had received a lengthy letter from the Curator of the Museum, in which he stated the results of his recent visit to the North Island, and the purchases he had made. Mr Waite had spent £225 in the purchase of specimens, some of them of exceeding value and great interest, and the committee considered that it had received remarkable value for the money. He thought there was no doubt that the direction in which the Board should move in future was, first of all, to strengthen the Maori department while the dominion was still young. A sum should be set aside every year for the purpose. Another suggestion was that the Board should try to get as thorough a collection as possible dealing with the early lives of the settlers who had established Canterbury. There were a number of photographs and pictures and documents dealing with the matter, but nothing like the collection there should be. If it were known that the Board had laid it down as a matter of settled policy that such a collection should be made, the result would be of intense interest in a hundred or one hundred and fifty years.

Mr Izard said that as executor of the late Mr Walker he had two or three albums of photographs of early colonists, but nobody seemed to know who they were. He would be willing to risk the disapproval of the beneficiaries in handing them over to the Museum.

Mr Weston said that the collection of documents now in the Public Library might be better housed in the Museum.

The chairman said that the documents had been placed in the library at the special wish of the Board, so that journalists or writers could have easy access to them.

4. Fri.

Handed round a
number of lists for
subscriptions from
~ employees? Took
Rose to Cinematograph
pictures at night.

Mr Edgar R. Waite, Curator of the
Canterbury Museum, has received the
following contributions to the fund be-
ing raised for the purchase of the
Okarito whale's skeleton:—Mr F.
Hitchings 11s, Dr. J. C. Palmer £5
5s, Mr Wm. Izard £2 2s, the Curator
£2 2s; total £10.

CANTERBURY COLLEGE.

EMPOWERING BILL.

PROPOSAL TO PAY CHAIRMAN OF BOARD REJECTED.

(SPECIAL TO "THE PRESS.")

WELLINGTON, September 3.

The Canterbury College Empowering
Bill was briefly explained by Mr Ell in
the House this afternoon, and it passed
its second reading on the voices, not,
however, without a protest from the

THE OKARITO WHALE.

A small committee has been formed to assist Mr Edgar R. Waite, Curator of the Museum, to raise the £200 required for the purchase of the skeleton of the Okarito whale. The members are Dr. Charles Chilton, Dr. Coleridge Farr, Messrs R. Speight and J. Drummond. The sum of £51 5s 9d has been subscribed, or promised, to date, the donors additional to the last published list being:—Lieut.-Col. Snow £1 1s, Dr. H. G. A. Brauer £1 1s, H. Stringer £1 1s, A. R. Bloxam £1, J. O. Jameson £1 1s, Taylor and Oakley £1 1s, J. L. Scott £2 2s, J. and W. Jamieson £1 1s, Edward Reece and Sons £2 2s, J. J. Kinsey £2 2s, Cyrus R. Williams £1 1s; total £14 13s.

[249a]

Minister of Education regarding the clause providing for the payment of a salary to the chairman. Mr Fowlds's protest was greeted with cries of "Hear, hear," from all parts of the House. He said that if they once admitted the principle in connection with such institutions, there was no knowing where they would stop. They would develop a professional chairmanship, a very undesirable thing for all concerned.

In Committee, subsequently, Mr Fowlds moved that Clause 8, providing for a salary up to £200 a year to the chairman be omitted.

Mr Ell appealed to the House to allow the clause. He referred to the large amount of work the chairman had to do; he also pointed out that Mayors, chairmen of tramway boards, and others holding such public positions, received payment for their services. He admitted there was a division of opinion on the Board as to the amount of salary that should be put in the Bill.

Notwithstanding Mr Ell's advocacy, the clause was struck out by 38 votes to 9. The result was received with laughter.

Mr Fowlds moved to add a proviso to Clause 11, providing that no person shall be eligible for the position of rector who is not a member of the Professorial Board of the College. Mr Fowlds explained that the Local Bills Committee had put in the words "ex officio." This made his proposed amendment necessary; it would never do to allow an outsider to be elected to the position. It would cause endless friction and trouble.

The amendment was agreed to on the voices, and the Bill passed through Committee.

5. Sat.

Russell has not accepted the defeat of the payment clause with good grace and the leader is a bit of a "stinger".

He sent a man to sketch me in regard to Stead and the whale for the "Spectator".

"The Week," for the first time in its career, is now the part owner of a whale. It is a nice affectionate whale, so the man with the subscription list affirmed, and its name is Okarito. It is intended to call it "Okey" for short. The man also said it was no relation to the Waite elephant, and that if it was not bought for Museum purposes it would be sent to the bone-mill instead. So "The Week" bought a shilling's worth of whale.

ON PUBLIC SERVICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE PRESS."

Sir,—Your readers would see that, on the motion of the Minister of Education, the clause authorising an honorarium of not exceeding £200 per year to the chairman was excised from the Canterbury College Bill. I make no apology for referring to this matter in your columns, even at the risk of being misunderstood. For the period from March 1st, 1907, to the present date, I have held that office, and am in a position to know the time and labour involved if the work entailed is done.

(1) When I became chairman, I found a disorganised office staff, costing £1125 per year. Recoupments from other departments reduced the net cost to the College to £795. At the present an efficient staff costs £379 (a saving to the Board of £246), whilst the recoupments reduce the net cost to the College to £269, thus setting free £526 for purely College purposes.

(2) I shall now state the financial results during the period, as follows:—

Agricultural College debt paid ..	£2219
Properties in College block bought ..	1350
Fixed deposits in bank ..	6500
Tramway debentures bought ..	5700
Coldstream Reserve secured (estimate) ..	6000
College Club equipped ..	180
P.H.S. Gymnasium ..	1910
G.H.S. furniture, etc. ..	754
	£26,258
Less Mortgage repaid ..	£8000
Less subscriptions, etc., for gymnasium ..	1200
Less capital transferred ..	761
	9261

Cash profit on the working of the account from Feb. 28th, 1908, to August 31st, 1908 .. £16,272

In addition to the above increased rentals are now being received which, capitalised at 5 per cent., represent increased values amounting to £10,800. There are no debts or liabilities on current account, everything being paid up to the date of last meeting of the Board.

For the information of your readers it may be stated that the Board's endowments, are worth upwards of £320,000. The Board controls an annual expenditure of upwards of £40,000 for the following institutions:—Canterbury College, the School of Engineering, Boys' High School, Girls' High School, School of Art, Museum, and Public Library. The number of officers employed is 95. I ask any business man to think for a moment what it means to be the chief executive officer of a body which not only controls the above seven institutions, but also has a huge landed estate, let to 127 different tenants. How many businesses (including companies) are there in Christchurch which entail more work than does this position, especially if, as you say in your leader this morning, the work is done "conscientiously." Last year the chairman attended 55 official meetings of the Board and committees. If count were taken of sub-committees, functions, and personal attendances at the office, that number would be increased to at least 250, without considering visits to Wellington, Timaru, Temuka, and elsewhere. No other educational position in New Zealand entails the same amount of work and responsibility.

Under these circumstances I leave the people of Canterbury to judge of the matter. Members of Parliament receive honoraria, Mr Fowlds himself draws a very handsome salary, the Superintendents and Provincial Executives were paid for their services, Bishops receive large emoluments as well as honour. On what principle can it therefore be laid down that the man who serves the public in another important position, and has very large responsibilities, should be compelled to sacrifice his own health and the interests of his family for the honour of public service? If this policy is adhered to, public positions must become the perquisites of wealthy men, and the democracy be excluded. Personally, not being overburdened with this world's goods, had the honorarium proposed been granted it would merely have provided me with an assistant as compensation for the loss of my time, owing to which I am frequently now compelled to work at night, whilst others are enjoying home and social life. If it had done this, I should have felt I was grateful, but would not have felt I was receiving one penny remuneration for my services. A former chairman was provided with a private secretary for his personal service at £156 per year.—Yours, etc.,

G. W. RUSSELL.

Stanmore road,
September 4th, 1908.

[We have referred to this letter in our leading columns. — Ed. "The Press."]

PAYMENT FOR POSTS OF HONOUR.

In reference to the letter from Mr G. W. Russell, which appears in another column, we have no wish to disparage the work he has done as Chairman of the Board of Governors of Canterbury College. On the other hand, it seems unlikely to suffer from any policy of reticence on his own part. We do not, however, regard the chairman of the "chief executive officer of the Board." If he occupied that position, discharging the duties professionally, we should say that he would be very inadequately paid at the amount fixed in the clause which has just been rejected by Parliament. We presume, however, that the Registrar is responsible for the general business management of the College; that there is a superintendent to look after the reserves, and other executive officers responsible to the Board. It is the function of the chairman, in conjunction with the rest of the Governors, to see that suitable appointments are made to these offices and to guide the general policy of the institution. We have not hitherto found any difficulty in getting gentlemen competent in every way for the position, without offering them a bribe of two or three hundred a year. Mr Russell has more than once referred in a carping and

ungenerous way to the fact that Mr Malet, when chairman of the Board, had a private secretary at a salary of £156 a year. There would not be the slightest objection to a private secretary being appointed at the present time, his salary being paid by the Board, but that is a totally different thing from degrading the chairmanship from a post of honour and distinction into a paid office, with a salary attached to it about equal to that of a good foreman of works. Mr Malet certainly never thought of asking for a penny of remuneration for himself, and seeing that his business abilities afterwards enabled him to fill with credit the position of chairman of the Bank of New Zealand, in addition to other important commercial positions, it can hardly be said that the chairmanship suffered by being in the hands of a gentleman who neither received nor asked for any pay for the work which he did. Mr Russell lays emphasis on the fact that the Board's endowments are worth upwards of £320,000, and that the Board

SEPTEMBER 5, 1908.

controls an annual expenditure of upwards of £40,000. The London County Council controls an annual expenditure of upwards of ten millions, and the chairman is not paid. The Metropolitan Water Board controls works costing more than thirty millions sterling and the chairman is not paid. If Mr Russell considers these examples too far afield, we may again point to the Lyttelton Harbour Board, with works valued at twice the Canterbury College endowments and a revenue half as large again, yet whose chairman is not paid. We trust and believe that the supply of able and patriotic citizens, willing to do equally good work from a sense of public duty and for the honour which it brings, is not yet exhausted, either in the province of Canterbury or in other parts of New Zealand.

THE FOLLOWING WEEK.
The following additional subscriptions to the Okarito Whale Fund have been received by Mr E. R. Waite:—
Messrs. Heywood and Co., £1 1s; Mr Justice Denniston, £1 1s; Mr H. P. Murray-Aynsley, £1 1s; Mr G. T. Weston, £1 1s; total, £4 4s.

6. Sun.

Had a long (solus)
bike ride in morning
& went to the Museum
in the afternoon with
Brauer & Poole from the
Boarding House.

7. Mon.

THE OKARITO WHALE.

SECURING THE SKELETON.

A STRENUOUS TASK.

(BY EDGAR F. STEAD.)

(SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR "THE PRESS.")

It was sometime in March last that a wire from Okarito, South Westland, stated that a whale 87ft long had been stranded on the beach some six miles from the township. Mr E. R. Waite, Curator of the Canterbury Museum, went over to the Coast to see about securing the skeleton for the Museum. On his return he tried to organise an expedition from the Museum to go over again and get the skeleton, but sufficient funds not being granted, he

was unable to do so. After several long talks with him, I tried to organize an expedition, but could not get anyone to take charge of it, so finally decided to go myself. Mr. H. Turbott, of Wellington, went in with me, and when we had purchased the whale as it lay, I began making preparations. Mr. Waite gave me much valuable information as to the nature of the task and the implements we should need, and having enrolled Messrs C. B. and C. M. Walker and another in my party, we got our kit together. The tools consisted of bay-knives, slashers, shears, butcher's knives, huge iron hooks, blocks and tackle, axes, saw, etc., and also a considerable supply of disinfectant. July 22nd found us on the Broken River train, whence we took coach for Otara. A slip in the gorge prevented the coach from getting through, and the passengers were taken on in a trolley, after crossing the slip on foot. Two of us then proceeded to Greymouth to pick up some gear there, the others staying at Otara to catch our train when it came through. Later I proceeded to Hokitika, where I met Messrs Barrrough and Friend, the finders of the whale, and made final arrangements with them. Mr. Friend, who owns land near where the whale was stranded, said we might use a little land there, so that we would be sure of always having a fire when we wanted one.

We all left Hokitika on Thursday morning for our eighty-mile drive to Okarito, a drive that was livened en route by the horses bolting down a long winding hill, and running into the bush. We reached Okarito on Saturday morning and on Saturday morning arrived at Okarito.

Okarito is not exactly what one would describe as a city. Its founders were evidently strong on simplicity. The one street contains a dozen or so habitations, in the construction of which corrugated iron plays a prominent part. There are stores and two public-houses. Having bought a stock of provisions, we were ferried over the mouth of the lagoon, and started on our six-mile tramp to our camping ground, our way following in a dray. The little hut, which was situated about three hundred yards from the beach, consisted of a combined kitchen, dining and sitting room, with a fireplace and a bank in it, a bedroom and a pantry, the outside dimensions of the whole being about 10 by 12 feet.

THE WHALE 'IN SITU'

Here we unloaded our swag, and, taking some shovels with us, we went along to have a look at the whale, which was lying just beyond a little bluff. The first sight was disappointing. We had heard so much of its enormous bulk that, although we had been told it was much silted up by the sea, we had expected something more than the reality. A flock of black-backed gulls rose from a shapeless yellow mass, which was lying almost flush with the surface of the beach. This was our whale. Its head was lying at a slight angle to the sea, the body being twisted so that it lay almost straight towards the entrance. The skin was orange yellow, and still bore, in a slight degree, the corrugations and bumpy pits which were such a prominent feature when the animal was first stranded. Out of the skull, over which the skin hung like a blanket, projected a large splinter of the vomer bone, the broken end standing up in the sand in front. At the time the blubber was being taken off, a cut was made along the stomach. This had opened up, the sea had got into it, spreading the skin out on either side, and filling it in two great pouches with sand. Lying right on top, quite loose, was the breast-bone, which we took away. It is a light bone and flat, so that it is a marvel that the sea had not washed it off. Much of the tail end was covered with sand, so we took our shovels and dug a shaft about thirty feet beyond the visible portion. Striking the body, we went another ten feet, and hit right on the tail. Here, for the first time, we got a good view of the spot in which we were to work. The oil had oozed out through the skin, and solidified with the sand and shingle forming a sort of shell not unlike concrete. This was so hard, that later on, in several places, we had to loosen it with a pick. And it smells! How! It was as if forty thousand freezing and soap-scented systems for gneiss. I felt it was beyond my limit, and so, having found the tail was intact, I said we'd return to camp and get settled down a bit. While on the subject, I may say that that was the only occasion when the smell affected me in the slightest, and that throughout the work there was only one of the party who was actually ill.

OPENING THE CAMPAIGN.

We pitched a tent next day and, in the afternoon went over to the whale, and having excavated a good bit round the flukes began to cut one through. That we began to get some idea of what had been meant by the toughness of the meat. The fluke was about thirty inches through, and a foot deep in the thickest part, and it took us about three hours to get it severed from the body. Next morning we rigged up a gaffy and, cutting a piece out of the other fluke, we got a face to work on and began cutting out the inside of the backbone. The first ten feet of the body was a solid mass of sinews, and everything being covered with sand, which got into the cut and kept our knives very two minutes. However the work was pretty slow. However at the end of the day, we had secured three large joints containing, as we afterwards found, a total of twelve vertebrae, and two separate joints. From then on we were only able to take out one of the vertebral joints at a time, owing to their size. Ten or fifteen feet up from the tail the meaty part of the body commenced. The flesh was red, streaked with sinews and fat, and resembled carnos beef. Seeing that the animal had been dead for so long, the flesh was in a wonderfully good state of preservation, but when exposed to the air it almost immediately turned black.

We quickly settled down to steady work. During tides were running at the time of our arrival, and our intention was to secure all the bones in the body in time to enable us to tackle the skull during the next tide, when we would be less interfered with by the sea. The two Walkers and myself

back, horns of "rocks," the status of that upon being for an hour or so. At 5:15 a.m., Chalkie was aroused by a particularly strong alarm, and he led to have breakfast ready at seven. At lunch and tea-time he had to have hot water and disinfectant ready for the workers to wash in, as well as to prepare the meals. There were other duties: the various, heavy or minor ones, followed by bread and treacle, forming our usual repast. Chalkie was absorbed in our running out of our stock of, say, bread, when, of course, we had also plenty. All our stores had to be carried out from Olarion, and we were nearly always short of something, so that when we did not get a change of diet, we usually went hungry. Periodically we were in a swim about the liquor, lying in collection about to last in some time.

HOW THE BONES WERE EXTRACTED

The method of work on the whale was as follows:—Each morning we dug the sand out from alongside the carcass for as far as we reckoned we could get the bones out, then cut away as much as we could of the flesh, and finally looked on to the bone itself, and changed and cut until it came away. The vertebral joints were very hard to sever, the big circular ligaments being quite incredibly tough. The backbone rapidly increased in size from the last caudal joint, less than the size of a hen's egg, to the first dorsal vertebra, which weighed over three hundred pounds, and measured four feet in length and width. The "verte" of bone also grew as the work proceeded, until each joint varied with it about half a ton of flesh.

In the dorsal region the flesh was much more decomposed, being very like red putty. We could not cut it for it would be washed away by the tide. If we tried to take it away with our knives the pieces were too strong for us to break, while if we put a big meat hook in and hitched on our block and tackle, it pulled out. We overcame the difficulty by digging a pit on the side of the body, and undermining the meat so that its own weight caused it to fall in. This enabled us to get a sling round the vertebra, and haul them out with the tackle. We did not move the under half at all, therefore, and although it absorbed a considerable amount of heavy lifting, our work was several times interrupted by the sea flooding our pit, but we built a wall of sand and shingles, which we kept moving ahead of us, and this stopped all but one or two waves at each high tide. Some heavy work had been all the time away from the backbone, and they were lying across one another, buried in a mass of flesh. We cut the bone close of its sheath as far as possible, hauled the blocks on to the end of it, and keeping a steady strain on, one of us dragged the bone until it drew out. Three of them were extracted in this way, and these a new difficulty presented itself. The portions of ribs of which I have already referred, were full of water and sand which prevented our getting at the remaining shovels in the sand alongside gave us access to the bottom of the porch, which we cut and drained, thus obtaining access to the ribs. These bones are comparatively recent, their construction being reinforced with ligaments. The largest of them are about fourteen feet long and weigh one and a half hundredweight.

The flippers next engaged our attention. These were covered six feet deep with sand, and as they were some feet thick and three wide, their uncovering was some task. All three were cut in pieces, every part of the bone known and sketched to and the point was marked. The upper and lower we got with less work than we did with the large ball and socket joint, parting quite readily, but the shoulder-blades, large flat, fan-shaped bones, measuring nearly five feet across and curved deep in the flesh, entailed much cutting and hauling in their extraction.

AT WORK ON THE SKULL

At the end of the twelfth consecutive day's work, favoured by fine weather and calm seas, we reached the base of the skull. During our evening in camp our discussions had been largely about the dimensions we might expect to meet in the handling of the large bones. Ten feet in width, seven in length, and four and a half in depth, the whole mass must have weighed something about two tons. Before starting work on clearing away the large blocks of flesh from it, we threw up a good sea wall all round the base of our pit. By way of precaution, I may say that this wall served its purpose well, lasting just as long as it was required, and then being entirely demolished by four or five successive large waves.

Throughout our work we had been much annoyed by the persistent, unrelenting of the sun, but we were relieved when a gust of wind came, and we got to the base of the skull. Here, on the shady side of the bone, there were no shadows, and the sun was just about to set. We had after debated as to whether the bones of the skull, which were lying on the ground, would give us much trouble, but we suffered no ill effects. When we had cleared all the flesh and skin away from the upper part of the skull, we dunked our ropes, and, hitching on to a freedom chain block, we tried to raise the large bone up to clear it underneath. First we broke our cable and then the rope, and it was not until we had substituted for them a short stout tripod and a wire cable, and put in half a day's hard work with a lever, that we got the bone as to some dry wood blocks, whence another day's work landed it on one of the pits on the level sand. And then we took an afternoon's sleep, going out and shooting a good bag of young swans, the legs and breasts of which made remarkably good steaks.

The next day, Sunday, we walked up the coast about a mile to a little creek, where we had been told there were some large breeding. The pair of us crowded into a small, deep-sided, bush-covered point which was designed to hold two, and with the Pinnett line well submerged made a trip for about two miles up one of the most beautiful back creeks I have ever seen.

CLEANING AND REMOVING THE BONES

When we had secured the majority of the vertebral and ribs, I had on a contract to Messrs. Brown and Burroughs for the removal of the bones from the beach to Olarion. While we were working on the skull, they had removed all the other bones from the edge of the lagoon, some three hundred yards away, near a shallow flat patch, where we were to clean them. Preparations for their removal in a boat, when we were to remove them, for which we were to use the skiff. At the beginning of the third week, therefore, we commenced the work of cleaning the bones. Those around which the flesh had completely decomposed we put in the shallow water at the edge of the lagoon, and having made ourselves brown out of mounds of sand, we washed and scraped them clean, after which we put them on the lagoon to dry. This part of the work was easy, and we had been that the more easily parts would not break. These bones lasted until they were washed the first one, and then gave out suddenly. This theory about the bones was not really that it was only by a laborious process of cutting with a knife and hammer, with a chisel shaped piece of bamboo stick that we could get it off. Some of the bones were much more brittle than others, but on an average each took one man half a day to do. The flippers, which, like the ribs, were a solid mass of cartilage and gristle, fortunately readily yielded to their saws, all three being removed in about two days.

cut open the bone sheath and give the bone a pull. We had four days' continuous rain while on the cleaning, but we rigged up a tent fly and worked under that.

In the meantime Burrough and friend had brought up the punt, poling it up over the shallow water which covered the mud flats of the lagoon. It was the pontoon of an old dredge, and its delicate lines and graceful appearance led to our christening it the Watersprite.

Nine days' work finished the cleaning of the bones, and we then began loading them. The smaller ones presented no difficulty, and half of them were quickly stacked at one end of the punt. Then we loaded the two jaw-bones, laying them down lengthwise amidships. Then, having washed and scraped the skull to some semblance of cleanness, we began the work of loading it. We levered it up, got skids under it, and skidded it up on to the jetty. We chocked its sleigh so that it could not leave the track, anchored our block ahead, and hitched it to the sleigh, and, lubricating the runners with water and grease, dragged it to the end of the jetty. Here we twisted it round and slid it on skids down on to some logs placed crosswise on the jaw-bones. Then we loaded the remainder of the smaller bones, packing sixty or seventy of the smaller ones in sacks to prevent damage or loss. At last, on Friday, August 21st, four weeks after we had started work on the beach, the Watersprite set sail with the bones on board, for Okarito, only to stick on a mudbank, owing to lack of water, before she had gone half a mile. There, after two attempts to float her, she was left for spring tides.

Two days were spent "gum-spearing" for the missing bone, cleaning tools, and packing up, the first-named without success. Then we left for Okarito, and so for home. In Greymouth I received a wire from Okarito to say that the punt had been got through, and the bones were ready for shipment by the Jane Douglas. They will be taken to Greymouth, and there transhipped for Lyttelton.

So ends the tale. It was a good jaunt, and in conclusion I should like to sincerely thank Mr Waite, of the Museum, and Mr J. McLean, of Greymouth, without whose valuable advice and assistance the job would have been much longer and more difficult.

[259]

[261]

Further efforts are being made to raise sufficient money by public subscription to purchase for the Museum the skeleton of the Okarito whale. Yesterday a number of letters were sent to representative men in Canterbury, asking them to give assistance. This week a deputation consisting of Dr Coleridge Farr, Dr Chilton, Mr E. R. Waite, curator of the Museum, Mr R. Speight and Mr J. Drummond, representing the committee that has the matter in hand, waited on Mr Edgar Stead and asked him if the price could be reduced. The whale has been offered to the Museum authorities for £400. The Board of Governors of Canterbury College has promised £200 if a similar sum is subscribed by the public. The deputation told Mr Stead that strenuous efforts had been made in the city, but only £100 had been subscribed by the public. Mr Stead said that the expense of securing the skeleton had been increased recently, and inquiries had been made for it from other countries. Although he wished to see it in Canterbury Museum, he and his partner in the enterprise could not see their way to reduce the price. The committee has now decided to appeal to the country. It is hoped that there will be a ready response to the letters that are being sent out, and that there will soon be no possibility of the skeleton of the whale, believed to be the largest on record, being sent out of the dominion. By the fund was increased to 9d. The recent additions are: Harper £1 1s, Mr J. Withell R. English £1 1s, "Aucklands," "T.O.F." 2s 6d, Mr A. H. £1 1s and the New Zealand Co-operative Association £1

8. Tues.

Received 2 papers from
Ogilby in one of which
he deals with my
family Hemiscyllidae
and the Lord Howe Is
Exonantes.

9. Wed.

Formed a Committee
Chilton, Farr Speight
Drummond & self
to boom whale fund.

Benham wrote to say
that he had decided
to publish trawling
report in T.N.Z.I.

Discovered that the
£200 for printing the
report was upon the
estimates and got

Culton to write to
Benham re reconsider
his decision - NSW
Fisheries sent to the
Museum a new book
by Stead - "Edible
Fishes N.S.W."

The fund for the purchase of the
Okarito whale now amounts to about
£25. Amongst the latest contributions
are £1 1s each from Bishop Grimes and
Mr A. M'Kellar, and 18s 6d from the
employees of Messrs A. J. White and
Co.

10. Thurs.

The "Spectator" contains
lampoons of Russell
Stead & self, latter
as a Sandwich man
asking for "Subs"
for Whale fund. Took
Claude to Edgar Stead
lecture on Ornithology.
[261]

The following further contributions to the Okarito Whale Fund have been received by Mr E. R. Waite, curator of the Canterbury Museum:—J. Ballantyne and Co., £2 2s; J. Ballantyne and Co.'s employees, £1 12s 3d; Edward Reece and Sons' employees, 10s; Aitken and Roberts, £1 1s; Dr. C. C. Farr, £1 1s; Mr and Mrs George Fry, 6s; "G.H.," 10s 6d; Dr. L. Cockayne, £1 1s; T. W. Rowe, 10s 6d; R. M. Laing, 10s 6d; total, £9 4s 9d.

11. Fri.

Took Rose to Cinematograph pictures Took photo of Speculator Caricature Farr went round with me & we collected some more money.

12. Sat.

wrote to allport of
Marine Dept re £200
on estimates for the
trawling report. As
Benham declines to
publish in the 'Records'.
I asked Chilton to
write him on subject
Played quoits in the
afternoon with Cresswell.

13. Sun.

Had a long bike ride
with Poole of the house.

14. Mon.

Chilton & Speight went
with me as a depu-
tation to the Mayor
re subscription to the
Whale fund.

Attended Council of
C.P.I. £5. 5. 0. Voted
to the fund. Finished
typing introduction
to trawling report
15. Dec

The Council refused
me money for the
whale.

THE OKARITO WHALE.

MUNICIPAL GRANT APPLIED FOR.
—
NOTHING GIVEN.
—

The City Council last night, after a short discussion, decided not to contribute anything towards the sum proposed to be raised by public subscription to make up the amount required for the purchase of the skeleton of the whale stranded near Okarito about six months ago.

The Mayor introduced the matter by stating that a deputation had waited on him with the request that a municipal grant might be made.

A circular letter, bearing on the subject, was read.

The Mayor said he believed the Council had power to make a grant if it desired to do so. The purchase of the whale, however, did not end the matter, for a building would then be required to house it. It might be that any subscription given would be a subscription for educational purposes, in which case the Council would get a Government grant.

Cr. Forrester moved that the letter be received.

The motion was seconded by Cr. Horsley.

Cr. Parsons said the councillors would not be acting up to the pride they felt in their town if they dealt with the matter in that way. The city possessed the finest Museum south of the line, and the Council so far had not done much towards it, and he thought they should try to do something. He understood from the Mayor that the Council could legally make a grant.

The Mayor replied that that was so.

Cr. Parsons then moved as an amendment:—"That a grant of £20 should be made."

Cr. Hyde: We met last Monday night and cut down our estimates to starve our streets.

Cr. Cooper: Now we are asked to feed the whale.

Cr. Hyde: How can we buy a whale when we cannot buy stones for our streets?

The amendment was not seconded, and the motion for the receiving of the letter was carried.

Mr E. R. Waite, curator of the Museum, has received the following additional subscriptions to the fund for the purchase of the skeleton of the Okarito whale:—The Canterbury Farmers' Co-operative Association £2 2s 6d, "G.G." and "M.F." 2s, Dr. F. W. Hilgendorf 10s 6d, Mr H. Wynn-Williams £1 1s, Mr E. Cuthbert 10s, Canterbury Philosophical Institute £5 5s, Mr M. C. Barnett 10s 6d. The total is now £61 7s 3d.

Drummond went
round town with
me & we raised the
sum to nearly £80.

The following further additions to the
Okarito Whale Fund have been received
by Mr E. R. Waite, Curator of the
Canterbury Museum:—Mr R. Speight
10s 6d, Sympathisers 6d, Mr J. Bicker-
ton Fisher £1 1s, Friend £1 1s, Messrs
Collins and Harman £1 1s, Mr A. F.
Wright 10s 6d, Sympathiser £1 1s,
Messrs Smith and Anthony £1 1s, Mr
R. Heaton Rhodes, M.P., £2 2s, Mr N.
L. Macbeth £1 1s, Mr Norman Duncan
5s, Mr W. Duncan 5s, Mr Wilfrid Hall
£2 2s, Dr. B. M. Moorhouse £5 5s;
total, £17 7s 6d. The total to date
is £78 14s 9d.

16. Wed.

Lunched with Bishop
Grimes and Father
Price, Kennedy and
? Hare. Sent £1.

to Katie Hoperab who
is to be married
to day. £1. 7. -

Barker is now typing
fishes of the trawling
report. The goldfishes
in tank at Museum
bred, first time for
the season.

17 Thur.

Museum Committee
met & I exhibited
my scheme for en-
larging Maori House
to accommodate the
Korhi of Te Kaiti's
Whare. Visited my
dentist, nothing wrong!

18. Fri.

Drummond again helped me in canvassing & we brought the amount to £95-17-3. Took Claude to see the "Times" set. Linotype Stereotype & Machining.

19. Sat.

Played quoits in the afternoon. Took Rose & Claude to Cincinnati Graph Pictures at night. Benham sent MS of Echinodermata & Annellata of Nova Niven. The following advertisement appears in the "Quines". Barker finished typing my traveling MSS.

THE AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the Position of ASSISTANT CURATOR. Particulars may be obtained from the Secretary at the Museum. Applications, addressed to "The Trustees, Australian Museum, Sydney" must be received at the Museum not later than 30th NOVEMBER, 1908." 9170

20 Sun.

Went for ride with Poole in morning & afterwards took photos of his family.

21. Mon.

Got Whale Subscription fund to £100. 3. 3 -
With Sleigh Farr & Drummond interviewed Stead but he would not come down in his price -

22 Tues.

Received letter from
Sinclair, enclosing
particulars of duties
of Assistant Curator,
Salary £400. Received
£2. 10. 0 for "Press"
articles on Quinmat
Salmon.

23. Wed.

Took Rose to "Scarlet
T troubadours" Returned
Benham's MS for
emendation. Paid
fire premiums. due
Oct. 1.

Headingley	- - -	6.2
Burley.	- - -	6.2
Furniture Museum.		13.4

24. Thurs.

The "Speculator" contains another cartoon on the whale, the picture depicting both Stead & myself. Letter from Kilburn Scott, he is to leave Australia on Nov 25th.

25. Fri

Wrote to Scott.

26. Sat

Played quoits in the afternoon taking us Asmus, who is staying a few days at the house.

27. Sun.

All went to afternoon tea to Spenghts at-

Cashmere Hills. I went
on the Bike.

28. Mon.

The Board To day passed
my plans enlarging
the Maori House. at
a cost not over £50.
Went to military Bazaar
with Poole & Asmus -

29. Tues.

I had been talking
with Asmus, who is
an engineer, about
motor bikes, fancying
a Motorsacoehe, he
got a Californian
Machine on trial at
£16 & I had my first
run on a motor -

Letter from Mrs W.
She is off again this
time to Venice.

30. Wed.

Amicus obtained another
motor with an Aerial
engine & we had a
good spin. Went with
Brauer to Mass meeting
in favor of Sumner-
Ch. Ch Canal. The
Whale fund stands
at £157-0-5.

[20.8.10.]

[285]

At yesterday's meeting of the Canterbury College Board of Governors, Mr W. H. Montgomery said it was a matter of genuine regret that the collection of Maori relics at the Museum should be so inadequate. They had a very fine South Sea Island collection, but that representing their own country was very poor indeed. Many private individuals had far better Maori collections. He would like to see an effort made in the future to secure a more comprehensive representation of Maori handicrafts. The chairman (Mr G. W. Russell) said this feature had been anticipated. They had spent £250 recently upon the purchase of curios in the North Island, and when the estimates came down, it was his intention (if he could lay his hands upon the money) to ensure that a substantial amount was set aside for the purpose. He thought they should keep the Curator of the Museum incessantly scouring the country for Maori antiquities and relics.

[286a]

At the meeting of the committee of

palate bones. Wishing to see the skeleton in the Christchurch Museum, he and Mr Turnbull made the following offer:—"We will sell the whale at £500, but if the money is to be raised by public subscription Mr Turnbull and myself will head the list with a subscription of £50 each." In view of the size of the whale, the letter continued, and the fact that they had already received inquiries about it from America, they did not think that they were by any means overestimating the value at £500. The price was for the skeleton landed in trucks at Lyttelton, but if the Board preferred to do so it could take delivery at Okarito at a reduction of £20. That would effect a saving as the transport was cheaper for a public institution than for a private individual.

The Board discussed the offer in committee, and decided that it would give provided the balance of the money raised by public subscription. [286b]

The problem of housing the skeleton of the Okarito whale was raised by the Mayor at the recent meeting of the City Council, and it has been discussed by those who feel that the skeleton should be purchased for the Museum. The skeleton is too large to be admitted into the present buildings, and it has been stated that when sufficient public subscriptions have been obtained to purchase the whale, further funds will be required for a suitable building. Mr E. R. Waite, curator of the Museum, states that there is no need for the building problem to interfere in any way with the attempt to increase the whale fund to the required sum. He points out that a monster whale is thrown up on the shores of the dominion once in many years, but a building may be erected at any time. There may never be another record big whale in New Zealand, and the citizens, he says, ought to seize the opportunity to have the specimen placed in their Museum while they can. He does not think that there is any necessity for a special building at present, as the loose bones can be housed temporarily in the Museum, and the skeleton can be articulated and prepared for exhibition at any time later on. He is now trying to bring the total subscription up to £100. To do that, he requires only about £10. He says that he finds that many people are willing to subscribe, but they wait until they are personally interviewed. He suggests that those who intend to subscribe to the fund would lighten the work if they forwarded their subscriptions. [286c]

The Okarito whale fund has been increased to £133 8s 3d. About £66 has to be collected before the skeleton is added to the collection in the Museum. The following are recent additions to the fund:—The employees of the Dunlop Rubber Company 11s, the employees of Messrs Graham, Wilson and Smellie 10s 6d, "G.E.G." 2s, "E.V.H." 5s, Messrs B. Petersen and Co. £1 1s, the employees of Messrs T. H. Fewings and Co. 10s, Mr A. P. Pruhard 5s, Mr G. Gerard £5, Mr Thornhill Cooper 5s, "P." 2s 6d, Messrs Adams and Co. £1, Messrs Beath and Co. £1 1s, Messrs Ross and Glendinning £1 1s, "A.M.W." 10s 6d, Mr M'Gregor Wright 10s.

A sum of £132 7s 9d has been already collected towards the purchase by the Board of Governors of Canterbury College of the Okarito whale, for the Canterbury Museum. Yesterday the chairman of the Board, in reporting that there was still a sum of £68 to be collected before the Board would contribute its £200, stated that Mr Edgar Stead had informed him that the offer to sell the whale was not open indefinitely, and that he expected anything that was to be done to be done within the next four weeks. He was in hopes that the public would provide the balance in the next few weeks, and that the Board would then be in a position to conclude the purchase. As delivery of the skeleton would be given almost immediately, and as there was no accommodation for the housing of the skeleton, it might be necessary to call the Museum and Library Committee together to consider what should be done with the skeleton.

[2860] A deputation consisting

A deputation, consisting of Dr. Chilton, Dr. Farr, Mr R. Speight, Mr J. Drummond, and Mr Edgar R. Waite (Curator of the Canterbury Museum) waited on Mr Edgar F. Stead to ascertain if a smaller sum would be accepted by him and his partner for the skeleton of the Okarito whale than that at which it was offered to the Board of Governors of Canterbury College. The deputation pointed out that half the amount to be raised by public subscription (£100) had been raised, not without strenuous effort on the part of those more particularly interested in the acquisition of the skeleton for the Museum. Mr Stead, in reply, regretted his inability to accede to the wishes of the deputation, and said that in view of the very heavy expense incurred in securing the skeleton, the sum at which it was offered to the Museum was very reasonable indeed, especially as enquiries regarding the probable purchase of the skeleton had been received from America. Mr Waite has now decided to communicate with a number of prominent residents in the country, emphasising the desirability of the skeleton being acquired for the Museum, and requesting their financial assistance. It is to be hoped that a ready response will be made to this appeal and that, as a consequence, all anxiety regarding the acquisition of the skeleton will be set at rest.

AMS 587/50

