

The
Electric Chronicle
 newspaper



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Capt. Scott faces grim hardship as Shackleton invalided out
***Discovery* trapped in
 Antarctic pack ice**

One man dead

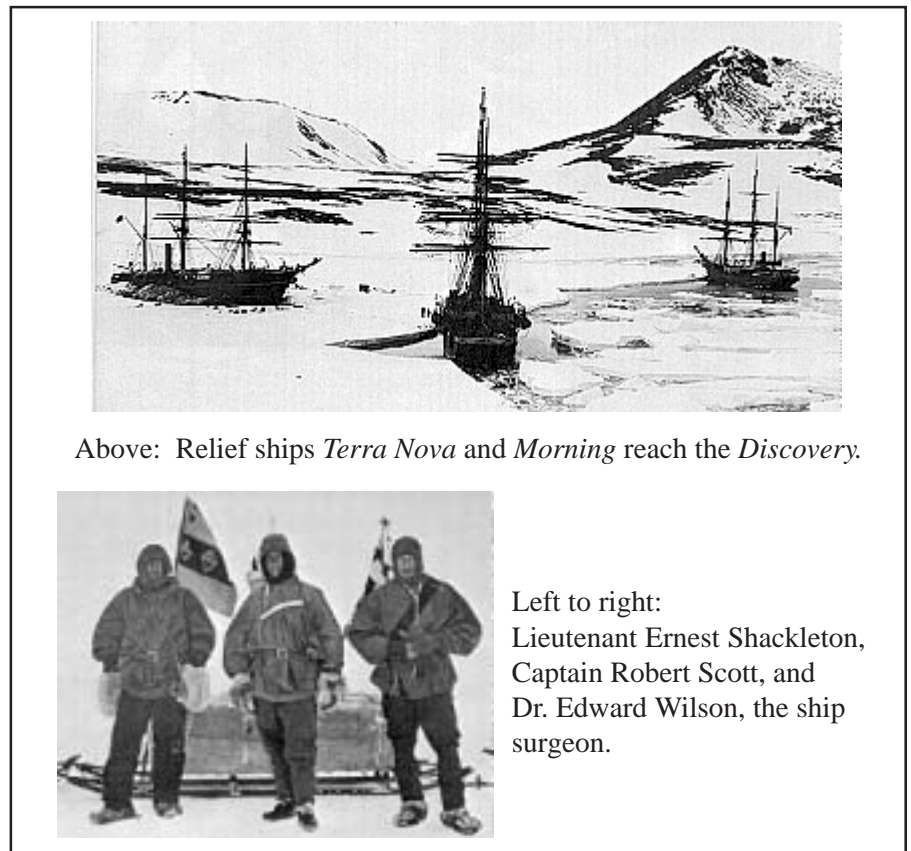
The Antarctic relief ship *Morning* arrived at Lyttelton, New Zealand, this morning, with news that the British team led by Captain Scott has penetrated further south than any previous explorers. But one life has been lost, and the party has experienced severe hardship.

The *Discovery* was left behind in pack ice, and will not be able to free herself until next summer.

While on a reconnaissance expedition A.B.J. Vince, R.N., lost his life on March 11th 1902 by falling over a high cliff into the sea during a blinding snowstorm. The remainder of the party narrowly escaped a similar fate.

Captain Colbeck of the *Morning* reports that the hardships of the sledging journeys across the ice were very severe. The men had to drag the sledges owing to the dogs dying. The stores brought from England were unsatisfactory.

The dogs died a few days after starting, although they had previously proved satisfactory when tested on short journeys. It is believed that they were poisoned by tinned dried fish



Above: Relief ships *Terra Nova* and *Morning* reach the *Discovery*.

Left to right:
 Lieutenant Ernest Shackleton,
 Captain Robert Scott, and
 Dr. Edward Wilson, the ship
 surgeon.

used for their food. The party had to drag a sledge weighing 300lb.

When Captain Scott returned to the ship after some months he looked like an old man. Lieutenant Shackleton was also broken down

through exposure in sledging, and invalided home by the doctor, but he improved during the voyage.

(Rewritten from reports in *The Sydney Morning Herald* during March, 1903)

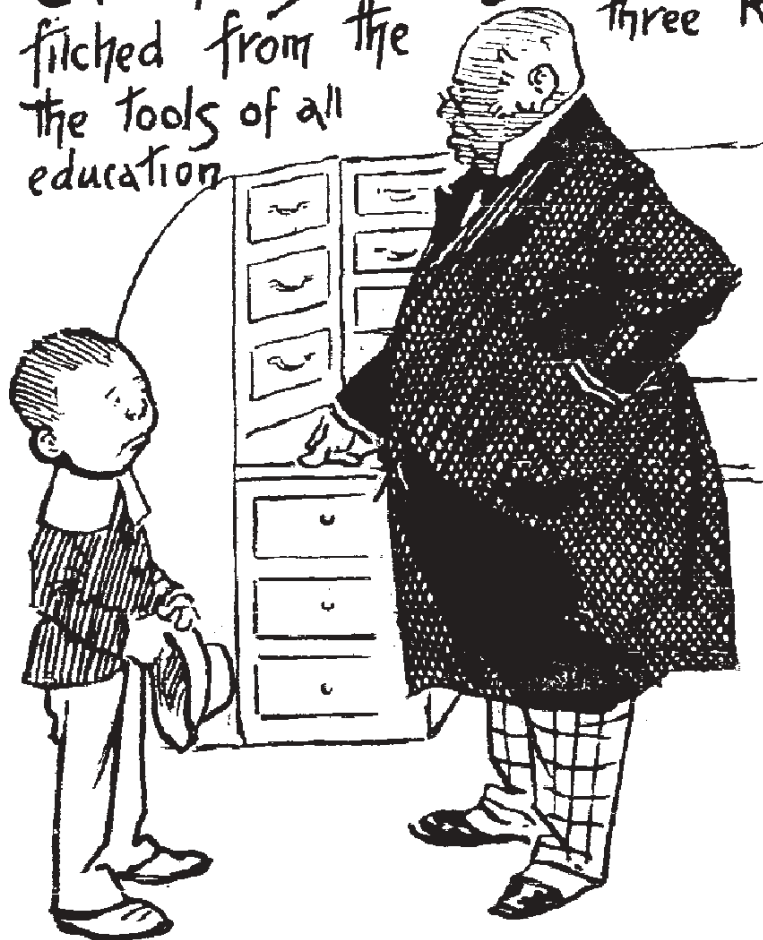
The
Electric Chronicle
newspaper

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published and presented by
Echo Education Services.

Newspaper compiled and
edited by Roger Stitson.

The question of what should be taught in schools
is not new — as shown below in this cartoon from
The Bulletin, May 2, 1903.

The State School Extras Craze
The time given to these subjects is
filched from the three R's —
the tools of all
education



“Well, my boy, can you write a good hand?”

“No, sir.”

“Can you do arithmetic?”

“No, sir.”

“Can you spell?”

“No, sir.”

“What can you, then?”

“Club swinging, Catechism, brushwork, papermats & Science.”



Vol. I.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1803.

Number 1.

It is hereby ordered, that all Advertisements, Orders, &c. which appear under the Official Signature of the Secretary of this Colony, or of any other Officers of Government, properly authorized to publish them in the SYDNEY GAZETTE, AND NEW SOUTH WALES ADVERTISER, are meant, and shall be deemed to convey official and sufficient Notifications, in the same Manner as if they were particularly specified to any one Individual, or Others, to whom such may have a Reference.

By Command of His Excellency the Governor and Commander in Chief, WILLIAM NEATE CHAPMAN, Secretary,
Sydney, March 5th, 1803.

Heading of the *Sydney Gazette*, as reprinted in *The Sydney Morning Herald*, March 5, 1903, page 4.

Centenary of Australian newspapers

The most interesting of our historical Australian relics, for many people, will be the first issue of the modest *Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, published by George Howe for the Government on this morning just 100 years ago.

The generation that unfolded its damp leaves was a different one from that of today, but not more so than the infant newspaper was from the Australian press as we now know it.

Many odd reflections are suggested to the mind as we handle these old sheets today. Yet through all changes of time and circumstance it is impossible to resist the appeal which these brown pages, irregular lettering, and faded type make for recognition as the parent of journalism in this continent.

It has been the custom to say that these States have been fortunate in having their experimental politics fall into safe and capable hands.

But it should be remembered that the evolution which transformed immigrants and settlers into politicians is in part explainable by the critical work carried on by the newspapers from the beginning of the second quarter of last century.

The politicians and public servants came and went, but the press went on all the time, dealing out its fearless, unbought judgements, to which the most powerful of the political leaders had to bow whenever they took a course that cut against the grain of the carefully-nurtured political instincts of the country.

Public opinion has governed through the newspapers, and these faded and embrowned leaves now before us command respect as the germ from which that great constitutional power and right, as wielded by Australian journalism, have sprung.

(Shortened and adapted from the *Sydney Morning Herald*, March 5, 1903)

THE SYDNEY HERALD.

"In moderation placing all my glory,
While Tories call me Whig—and Whigs a Tory."—POPE

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION,
For copy, per quarter 2s—Single Numbers 2d.

VOLUME I.

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 1831.

NUMBER 1.

TERMS OF ADVERTISEMENTS,
For Eight Lines and under, 2s 6d, and 1d each

Banner of forerunner of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, as reprinted in *SMH*, March 5, 1903, page 4.

Massacre in the Balkans

Turkish Sultan apologises to Russians

Well-authenticated reports state that murder, pillage, incendiarism and atrocities of every description occur daily in the Balkans, and are committed alike by soldiers, Albanians, Turks and Bulgarians.

A Bulgarian band has destroyed a village inhabited exclusively by Muslims, and have massacred in cold blood the villagers numbering 165 souls.

The Bulgarians disembowelled pregnant women, and impaled one woman on a stake.

Meanwhile thousands of Albanians attacked Mitrovitza, north-west of Pristina, hoping to expel the

Russian Consul. The Russian garrison of 3000 fought for several hours and repulsed the assailants with great loss.

There have been fears for the safety of M. Steherbina, the Russian Consul at Mitrovitza, who was wounded. It was on his energetic demand that the garrison was mustered and this act saved the Christians from massacre.

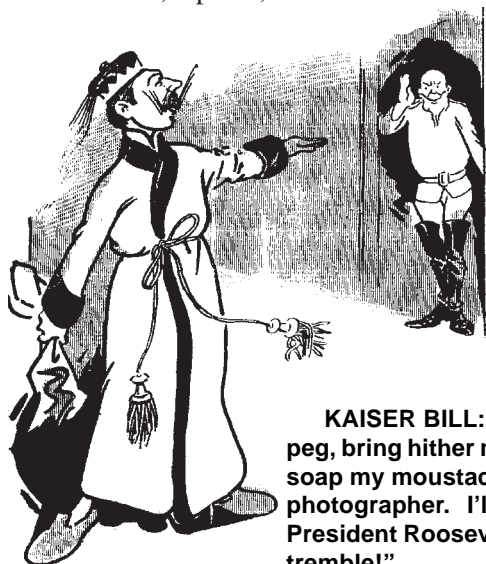
The garrison which contained a large element of Albanians at first declined to fight.

The Sultan and the Grand Visier of Turkey have apologised to M. Zinovieff, the Russian Ambassador at Constantinople, for the attack of M. Steherbina.

It is also reported that Christians in Old Serbia are panic-stricken and are fleeing.

Many Christians at Prilep, Macedonia, have been massacred. (Edited from reports in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, April 1903.)

The Bulletin, April 4, 1903.



Admiral George Dewey, of the United States navy, recently interviewed, is reported to have stated that the U.S. navy was the greatest in the world. The German navy was, he declared, an entirely different material. Its efficiency was greatly over-estimated. The men did not begin to compare in education and intelligence with the Americans, and looked to, and depended upon, their officers for specific instructions upon the least matters.

KAISER BILL: "Ho! Varlet, lord of the clothes-peg, bring hither my latest uniform of A Pirate King; soap my moustaches anew, and send for the court photographer. I'll send the result of the sitting to President Roosevelt, and let the parvenu potentate tremble!"

World news in brief

Telegraphy for British warships

The British Admiralty has arranged for Signor Marconi's Company to fit wireless telegraphic instruments on every warship. Six coastguard stations have been fitted with wireless telegraphic instruments, and other stations are being fitted.

Prohibition in USA

A referendum in Kansas, United States, has resulted in an unprecedented vote in favour of prohibition of the liquor traffic.

Mad Mullah kills 200 British troops

A great disaster has occurred to the British forces operating against the Mad Mullah in Somaliland. Ten officers and 200 men have been killed.

The disaster was borne by the Yao contingent of the King's African Rifles. In repelling an attack the ammunition of the Yaos became exhausted. The Rifles then formed in square and used their bayonets against the Somalis until they were overwhelmed.

Wonderful gun

The Cleveland machine gun, firing 800 one-pound projectiles per minute, has been tested at New York. General Miles, the Commander-in-Chief of the United States forces, declares that the weapon is the most wonderful and deadly machine gun in existence. (Compiled from reports in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, March–April, 1903.)

Advert., *The Bulletin*, March 21, 1903.



WIRTH BROS. SHOW, OPENING IN MELBOURNE ABOUT EASTER

Governor General confers honours in brilliant ceremony

In these modern days the honour of knighthood has lost much of the romance that was associated with it in mediaeval times.

However, the investiture that took place at Government House, Sydney, on Saturday night, was no less brilliant than that over which the Prince of Wales presided over two years ago. To some extent, indeed, it was brighter and more inspiring.

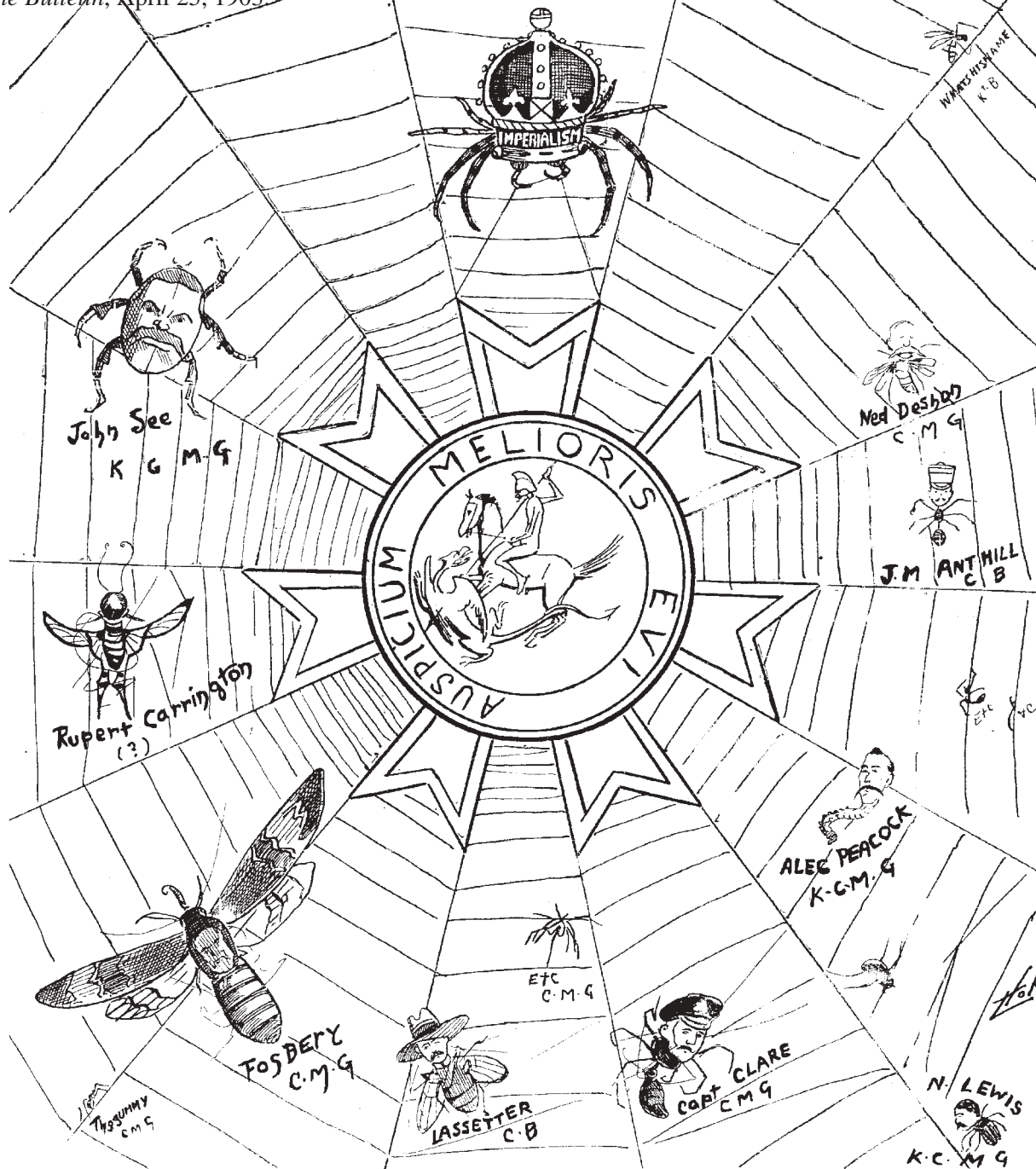
A dais was erected in the ballroom, under the orchestra gallery, and was embellished with the

Governor General's colours. The balcony was draped with flags.

Looking out the eye was charmed with the picture presented by the warships at anchor, their outlines picked out in electric light shining with dazzling brilliancy against the dark sky.

(Edited from the *Sydney Morning Herald*, April 20, 1903.)

The Bulletin, April 25, 1903.



A GREAT CATCH, or, DRAWING CLOSER THOSE SILKEN BONDS.
The recent investiture of titles by the Governor-General of Australia.

Families hit by drought

Requests for aid came in freely yesterday on the officials of the Lord Mayor's drought fund, and each day opens out a wider vista of human misery.

Individual tales of wretchedness are unfortunately typical of hundreds of others, and it is impossible that the people of New South Wales can abstain from giving freely of their comforts for those who are in absolute penury and want.

One of the letters which arrived yesterday was addressed to Mr. George Maiden, hon. Treasurer. It was sent by Mr. Gordon G. Johnston, of Nanama station, Murrumbateman, via Yass, and was as follows:

"Dear Sir,

I am taking the liberty to write to you as I do, not knowing the proper quarter to write to.

A man and his wife and two young children, boy 5 and girl 8 years old, have just called asking for work. I have no work to give them myself, as I have all the men I require.

I have given them tea, flour, sugar and meat enough to last three or four days. They are absolutely destitute and starving.

The man had to leave his horse at Cootamundra as he could not feed it, and it died in the reserve there. He had a rifle, and had to sell it for food, and now the money that they got is all spent in food.

The man and boy are bare and sore-footed, and the woman and girl are almost in the same condition, so I have found some old boots for them, but they won't last long

The man's name is (name supplied); he and his wife are going on to Bungendore, and will call at the post office. If anything can be done for them out of the relief fund you could let them know there.



The Bulletin, March 21, 1903.

THE MARK TAPLEY GOVERNMENT

"He said this — that this drought relief business was all rot and humbug. He had not given a farthing to it, and would not associate his name with it. But it suited the papers to continually assail the Government, and to say that thousands of people in this State were starving, and that it was in a very bad way. Well, it was all bunkum and trash to say that the Government had no money. They were going to get a lot of money shortly, and from a new source — the carriage of newspapers." — Minister Crick at Erskinville.

MINISTER CRICK (to man from Wayback): "I TELL YOU, IT'S ALL ROT. THERE'S NO DROUGHT. THIS GOVERNMENT DECLARED THE DROUGHT OFF MONTHS AGO. YOU STOP READING THE NEWSPAPERS AND YOU'LL HAVE NO MORE DROUGHT."

Apologising for troubling you, but I thought that perhaps the relief committee might be able to do something.

P.S. The last place those people worked at was Mr. F. Harnan's, of Cullereen Street, Narrandera, and

they have been unable to get any work since"

There was no time to waste here. The treasurer and secretary decided to telegraph £3 to Bungendore. (Edited from the *Sydney Morning Herald*, March 12, 1903.)

Townsville hit by cyclone

Five typhoid patients killed

A great cyclone hit Townsville in northern Queensland yesterday, killing five, injuring many and causing great destruction to property throughout the town.

Just as a group of typhoid patients was to be evacuated from the top floor of the Townsville hospital, the roof was blown away. A brick wall collapsed, burying the patients on the ground floor and killing five.

All the hospital outbuildings were levelled to the ground. For the remainder of the day no food could be cooked for the patients.

Buildings all over the town were unroofed. Many churches and schools were badly damaged. Two hotels were totally demolished, with iron being twisted and blown about like paper.

Hundreds of people have been made homeless, and have sought shelter in warehouses, offices and hotels.

The schooner Barratta lost her moorings and was blown clean out of the harbour. Nothing has since been heard of her, but it's considered she will hold her own in the storm.



CYCLONE SEASON

HOSPITABLE NEIGHBOUR: "Coming in for a rest an' a cup of tea?"

IN PASSING: "Not today — we're in a hurry an' can't stop!"

The Bulletin, May 2, 1903.

Telephone and telegraph wire have been left hanging. The telegraph line between Reid and Townville is down, and the township of Bowen has been isolated.

Railway communication between Townsville and Charters Towers is interrupted, with trains stuck at various points along the track. (Edited from *Sydney Morning Herald*, March 11, 1903.)

Rabbit trappers call for industrial action

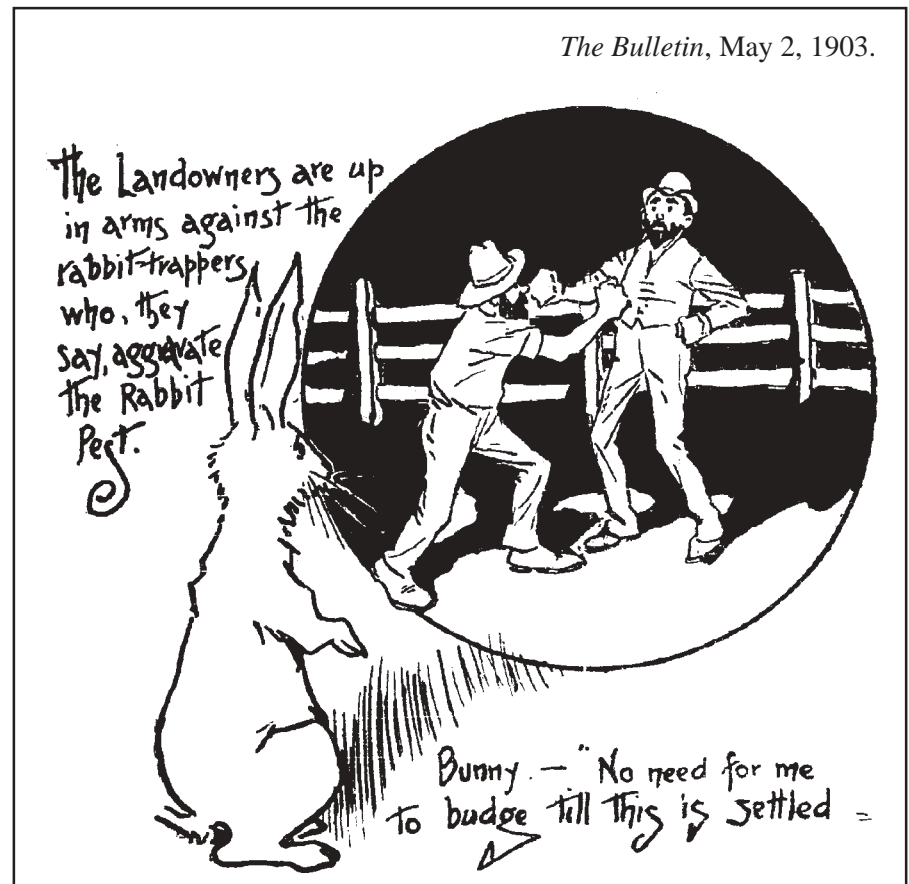
A meeting of rabbit trappers was held in Melbourne today to consider forming an association to improve their poor working conditions.

It is estimated that almost 3000 people are engaged in the industry, and up to 24,000 are dependent upon it.

The trappers believe the industry is large and important enough to warrant assistance from the State government, and the Railway Department in particular.

They carried a resolution to create an organisation to protect their interests, in particular to gain rail concessions for the transport of rabbits.

(Edited from *Sydney Morning Herald*, April 11, 1903.)



White Australia laws attacked by steamship owner

Mr. Archibald Currie, the well-known Melbourne steamship owner, who is returning home from a visit to India, has strongly criticised the White Australia policy.

He believes that the country is in such need of people to make trade that coolies from India should be brought out to work in the Commonwealth.

The steamer *Euryalus*, by which Mr. Currie is returning to Melbourne, was at Fremantle yesterday, where he was interviewed.

On being questioned as to his experiences in India, Mr. Currie expressed the opinion that India, with her busy harbours and teeming thousands working in them, and her millions employed in countless industries in the interior, is a lesson for Australia.

"I travel with my eyes open," continued Mr. Currie, "and my opinion of this country is that what is wanted is a lot of labour. Get labour from India, never mind what the colour is, and let the white man be the boss.

"Bring the coolies under engagement, and send them back at the end of it," he said.

"I understand fully that what I say is not popular, but it is my firm opinion that this is what is wanted here.

"When you go to India you are impressed with the vastness of the work and the trade going on, and it strikes you how small and mean — low and contemptibly mean — this country looks when you come back to it.

"What we want is population," he insisted. "With their huge populations and their resources, India and China 50 years hence will be the workshops of the world. Of that I am firmly convinced

"Our country is similar, and we want crowds of people to make the huge trade that you see in those countries."

(Edited from the *Sydney Morning Herald*, March 2, 1903.)

The Bulletin, April 18, 1903.



N.B. the Horsetralians are shown through the bars of the basement busy relieving the tension &c of the Mother Land.

"We shut out the immigrant, neither helping to relieve the struggle for existence in the Mother Land, nor do we populate & develop the country & thus help to make it at once a granary & a garrison of the Empire."

— "Argus"

A.F. Vincent
1903

Kanakas in danger if repatriated to islands

The Chief British Commissioner of the New Hebrides, Captain Rason, has claimed that Kanakas working in the Queensland sugar plantations will not be welcomed by their own people if returned to their island homes under the terms of the Alien Immigration Restriction Act.

The sudden influx of 3000 Kanakas into the Pacific islands, many of whom have been away for ten years, would cause severe social dislocation, quarrels and a shortage of food, placing great stress on the

existing population, said Captain Rason.

"Those returning will find themselves defenceless amidst natives fully armed with rifles," he claimed. "They may also find their old friends and relatives dead."

Captain Rason insisted that Kanakas should be given a financial grant to tide them over until the crops they would plant had time to grow. (From reports and editorials in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, March–April, 1903.)

In brief

Easter army camp

Military camps of partially-paid and volunteer troops will be held throughout New South Wales, starting today. The men will remain under canvas throughout the Easter holiday until next Tuesday.

Circus lion drama

Herr Pagel, the famous lion tamer at Fitzgerald Brothers' Circus, was attacked last night in Sydney during his performance in the lion cage. Watched by a breathless audience, Pagel fought a giant lion to the ground, then picked it up and hurled it to the far corner of the cage. The bear skin Pagel wore was badly torn, but the performer stated he had not received any injuries.

Jack the Ripper?

Severino Klosowski, the Pole, alias George Chapman, licensee of the Crown Hotel, Southwark, in England, was executed today for the murder by poison of barmaids whom he employed.

Mr. Abberline, formerly chief detective and inspector of Scotland Yard, believes that Klosowski and Jack the Ripper, who committed the Whitechapel murders in 1888, are identical.

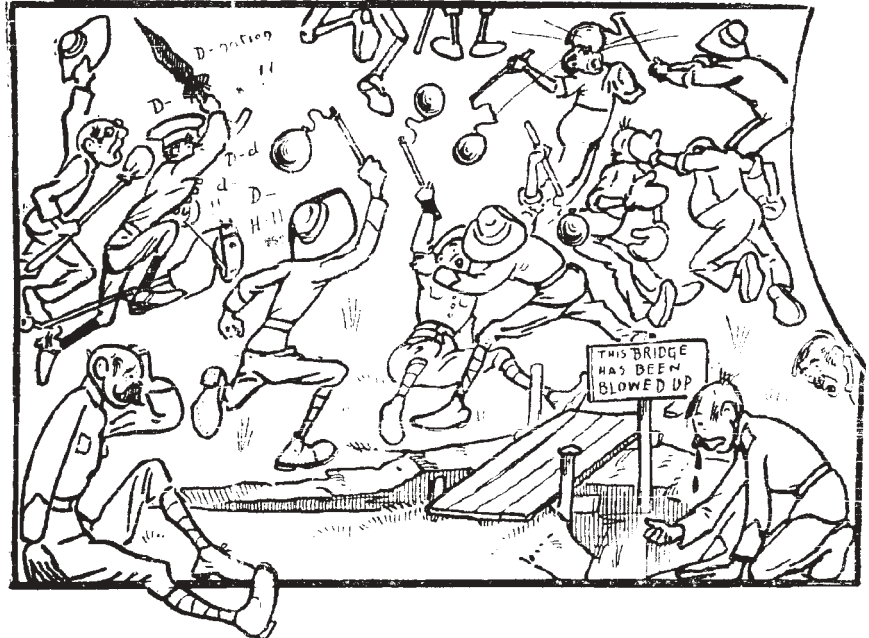
Writer shot by lover

French novelist M. Marcel Prevost was shot in a Paris street today by his abandoned mistress, Mlle. Touret, the prototype of the heroine in his *Lettres de Femmes*. He survives, but is refusing to prosecute his assailant.

(*Sydney Morning Herald*, March-April, 1903.)

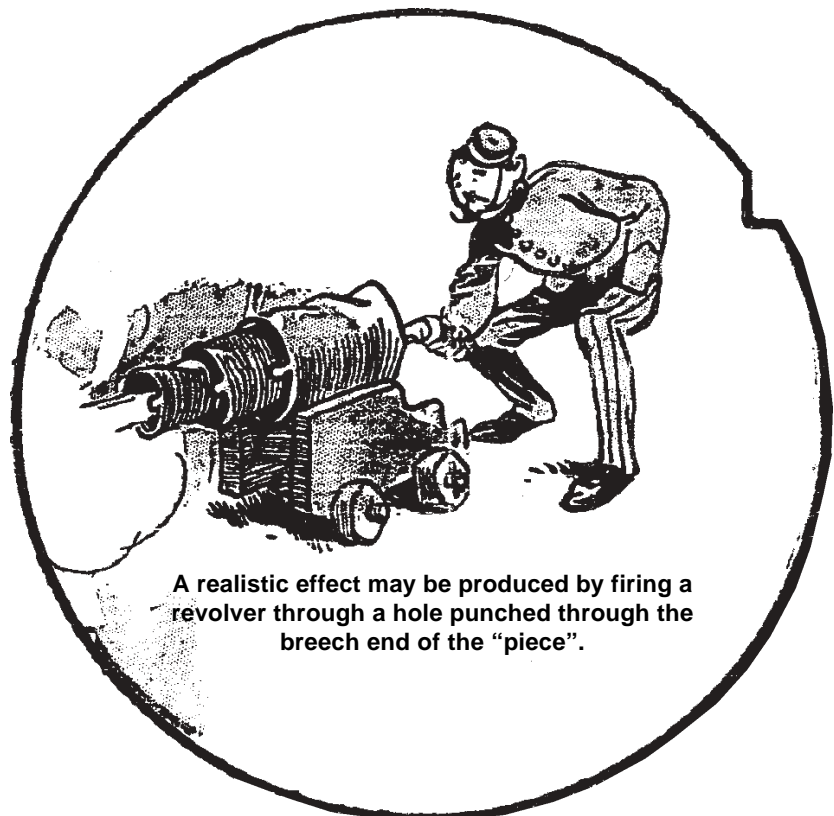
Hop's view of the Easter military encampments

The Bulletin, April 11, 1903.



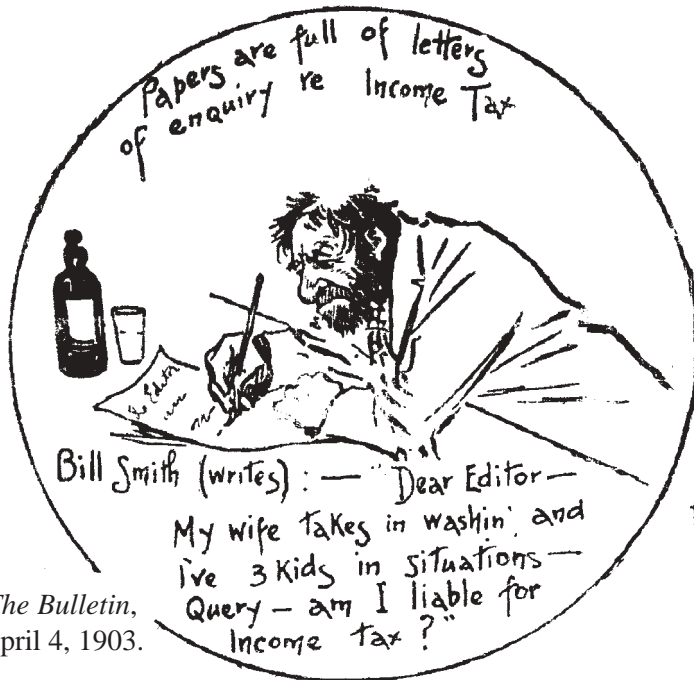
Sham battle conducted on economical lines.
The Gov't. appropriations will not run to powder this year.

A very effective and inexpensive field-piece for artillery practice,
made out of old billycans.

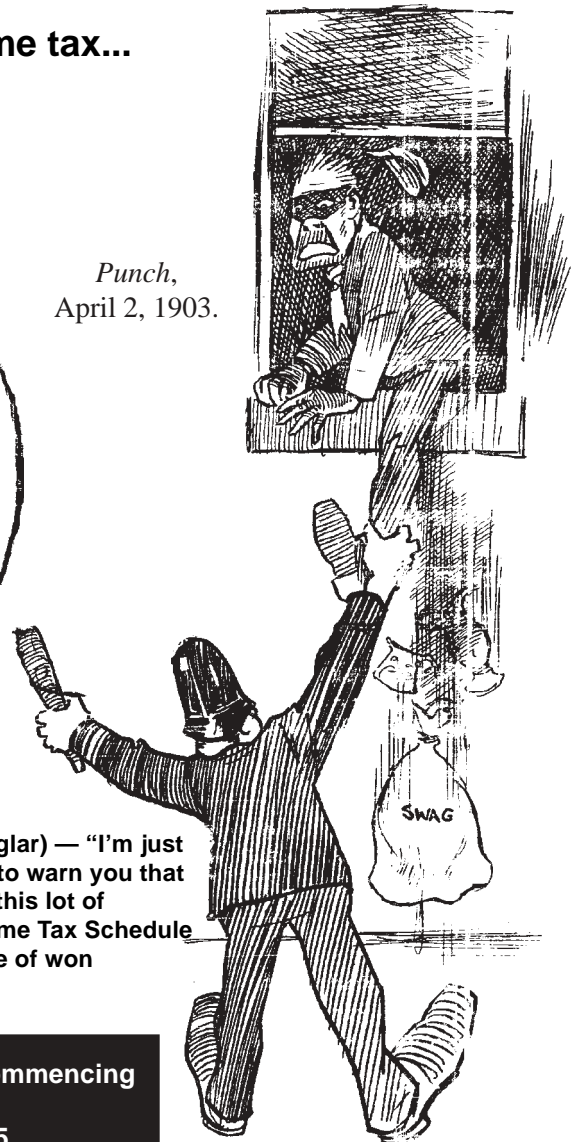


A realistic effect may be produced by firing a
revolver through a hole punched through the
breach end of the "piece".

Cartoons from April 1903 on the vexed subject of Australian income tax...



The Bulletin,
April 4, 1903.



Punch,
April 2, 1903.

POLICEMAN (to burglar) — “I’m just interferin’, my man, to warn you that if you don’t include this lot of income in your Income Tax Schedule you’re liable to a fine of won hundred pounds.”

Income tax was introduced in Australia by the States, commencing with South Australia in 1884. New South Wales and Victoria followed in 1895, Queensland and Tasmania in 1902 and Western Australia in 1907. The first federal income tax was levied by the Commonwealth in 1916 to finance Australia’s role in World War 1.



Punch,
April 2, 1903.

AN ILL WIND, &c.
ORDINARY CIT. — “Know who he is? He’s an accountant. He made all that out of explaining the Income Tax at so much per explanation.”

The Electric Chronicle Newspaper

Sports News



www.echoed.com.au/echron

Shamrock III disaster

Crew member drowned, Lipton injured

Sir Thomas Lipton's yacht *Shamrock III*, the challenger for the America's Cup, was today caught in a sudden storm off Weymouth, England, and dismasted. The vessel, which has been reduced to a hulk, was towed to Weymouth.

Sir Thomas was injured, but not severely. One of the crew was drowned and others were badly injured.

When the accident to *Shamrock III* occurred a northerly breeze was blowing. Then came a squall far more sudden than that which wrecked *Shamrock II* on the Solent in May, 1901. The strain on the sails snapped the mast 7ft. above the deck.

Sir Thomas, who was holding a pair of binoculars, was thrown headlong down the companion way, a sailor falling on top of him.

One of Sir Thomas' shoulders was bruised, and a hand was lacerated by glass from the broken binoculars.

A steward named Collier was standing near Sir Thomas Lipton at the moment of the squall. He was knocked overboard. He swam clear, but the cold overcame him and he was drowned.

Cutting away and recovering the yacht's wreckage took five hours.

King Edward sent a message to Sir Thomas Lipton from Malta expressing his deep regret at the accident, and his sorrow at the fatality.

The American view of Sir Thomas Lipton's efforts to win the America's Cup.

New York Tribune, approx 1900



IT'S NAILED FAST!

Sir Thomas — "I've come to lift the Cup."

His Majesty also asked that an expression of his sympathy should be sent to the family of the steward.

The Prince of Wales sent a similar message of sympathy, and inquired as to the sufferers in the accident.

Much sympathy in America is also expressed for Sir Thomas Lipton.

Sir Thomas stated that his only lasting regret was the death of Collier.

A duplicate steel mast for *Shamrock III* is now being finished, and will be ready in a fortnight.

There would probably be six weeks' delay, but Sir Thomas hopes to be at Sandy Hook, New York, in August, the month when the races are to be sailed.

(Edited from the *Sydney Morning Herald*, April 20, 1903.)