#### Wonderland Of **Hot Springs**

New Zealand's greatest tourist attraction, the Thermal Region of Lake Rotorua and its surrounding district, is famous for four reasons: its mountain scenery, its hot springs, its Maori villiages, and Rangi.

We were eager to visit Rotorua for all these reasons, but especially to renew acquaintance with Rangi, the famous Maori guide, who is as well known in New Zealand as Ned Kelly is in Australia, but for a better reason. She's a sparkling personality . . .

Rangi showed us her treasures, including her autograph book signed by many celebrities, and the splendid wood carvings done for her by her grand dad in his old days.

Then she said, "I'll cook lunch" Taking a dozen cobs of sweet corn she put them into a flax bag, and lowered the bag with a string into a hot water rock pool in her garden. She tied the string to a peg, and left the corn to simmer in the pool.

"There he blows!" said Rangi suddenly, pointing to a plume of steam in the distance, where Pohutu Geyser was putting on his act with a muffled rumble.

"Now come and see Whaka village," suggested Rangi. She led the way by a wooden footbridge over a running stream, where Maori boys were entertaining a group of tourists by diving for pennies, thrown into the water by tourists.

The boys were go-getters. "Throw silver coins," they urged. "We can't see the copper under water!" . . .

"Now we'll see the Frog Pond!" announced Rangi. We followed her into the steamy thermal area, and heard giant frogs croaking in the mist.

Had again! The croaking sound was only the bubbling of steam escaping, with a "phut phut" noise, from a devil's cauldron of boiling mud. . . .

The mud boils up into domes, then the frog croaks, the steam escapes, and the mud subsides, to form ephemeral patterns, lazily wavering to form more bubble and croak upthrusts of the viscous crust of the mud.

"These ponds are so fascinating," remarked Rangi, "that some people stand looking at them for hours, and forget all about their corn being cooked at home." . . .

"Time for lunch!" announced Rangi. We dodged among the geysers, fumaroles, mudholes, and drifting clouds of steam where Rangi fished the corn cobs from the hot rock pool, done to perfection.

The boiled corn-on-the-cob was succulent. Maize was not a traditional Polynesian food. It was introduced by the pakehas, as "Indian corn" from America, but is nowadays a hot favorite among the Maoris.

When Rangi's ancestors arrived in the Land of the Long White Cloud, they brought cuttings of Kumara (sweet potatoes) with them, which they planted in gardens tilled with wooden spades. They ate fish and birds, berries, fern roots, and shoots, and the pith of tree ferns. - From "Roaming Round New Zealand," by Frank Clune.





"NIK-KNACK" - The Sputnik school of sculpture makes its appearance in Moscow's Central Exhibition Hall, with this work featured in the All-Union Art Exhibition. The rocketlaunching figure, entitled "To the Stars", was created by Russian sculptor Postnikov. Photo and caption material were received from an official Soviet source.

#### **Bookworm Became** Master Forger

Thomas J. Wise was a master forger. But he never stood in the dock of a criminal court. Throughout a long life he achieved international fame and made a fortune as the greatest authority on rare books and pamphlets of his time.

He belonged to learned societies, hobnobbed with great scholars and American millionaires. Oxford University conferred upon him the rare distinction of an honorary degree of Master of Arts, and the equally rare distinction of an honorary fellowship of Worcester College.

Only when he had reached the peak of his fame were the systematic frauds revealed which toppled Thomas J. Wise off his high pedestal.

How did his amazing career of crime begin?

In 1885 a society was formed in memory of the poet Shelley. Its members included some of the most celebrated literary men of the day, and there was only one who had no claim to distinction.

This exception was a chubby, ruddy-faced man of twenty-five Tom Wise, a city oil merchant's clerk. Though obscure and in trade, young Wise showed a tremendous interest in the Shellev Society and very soon took a leading part in the preparation of famsimile copies of Shelley pamphlets for members.

Such "copies" have a sentimental interest for the admirers of a famous poet, but no commercial value. And the fact that they are only copies is stated on them.

Tom Wise hit upon a billiant scheme which side-stepped the problems of imitating a rare existing pamphlet, by manufacturing a new one with a faked

Thus a forged pamphlet could not be compared by the expert with any original, since no original existed. And there was a very real financial advantage if the swindle was worked clev-

Here is an example of how, when he had become rich and famous as the greatest authority on rare books and the builder of one of the finest private libraries in the world, Thomas Wise, M.A., was carrying on secret deals in faked nineteenthcentury pamphlets.

When the invalid Elizabeth Barrett was being courted by Robert Browning before their run-away marriage, she wrote a series of beautiful love sonnets to him. They were published in 1850 and became a valuable first edition.

But Wise had the love sonnets printed in a pamphlet dated

#### THE HUNGRY AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY --- PART OF ITS ANNUAL DIET: FOAM RUBBER RUBBER 是是 19 MILLION TONS 1 BILLION LBS. 150 MILLION LBS. COTTON CHEMICAL MATERIALS \$45 MILLION LBS. 24.5 BILLION LBS. LEATHER PAINTS 2 MILLION SQ. FT. 160 MILLION LBS. 24 MILLION GAL.

PEEDING A MAMMOTH APPETITE-When a person buys a car, he buys the products of many industries. Newschart, above, shows some of the variety of these products and the amounts utilized by auto makers in an average year, according to the American Finance Conference. In addition to steel, the everage American passenger car uses about 30 pounds of eluminum and 7 miles of copper wiring.

1847. The value of the first edition was thus destroyed and his own pamphlet greatly increased in value. No one, of course, suspected the great Wise of fraud!

In the early and middle nineteenth century there was a goldmine for the forger who could hoodwink the American collector. Wise, secure in his place as a leading expert, and by now a wealthy man, had easy pickings to placate his greed for yet more money.

So great was his authority that no one ever questioned a pamphlet or rare book if Wise endorsed it as genuine. One American banker, Mr. J. H. Wrenn, invested in Wise's faked pamphlets on a large scale, thousands of pounds changing hands.

Though the main bulk of Wise's frauds were of faked nineteenth - century pamphlets, once, at least, he faked a complete book.

In 1887 there appeared a new edition of Shelley's poems edited by Charles Alfred Seymour, member of the Philadelphia Historical Society. Thirty copies, for private circulation only.

What could make a more direct appeal to the rich American collector? The thirty copies soon found purchasers at fancy prices and went on to the bookshelves of famous American libraries.

An additional bait for the rich buyer was a number of love sonnets written by Shelley for his first wife, Harriet, and never intended to be seen by other

Where did Thomas Wise come in on this fraud? The answer is simple. He took the name Charles Alfred Seymour and invented the Philadelphia Historical Society.

Another method used by Wise was to buy at auction the letters of the famous dead and from them have printed fraudulent pamphlets appropriately predated to deceive.

Strangely enough, Wise was a fraud and genuine at the same time.

For example, he really loved rare and beautiful books. In his home on Crouch Hill, North London, he had built up a magnificent library named after the road in which he lived, the Ashley Library.

He permitted no fakes to go on to his own bookshelves, and when he made a catalogue of this great library it ran to eleven volumes, beautifully illustrated and with notes on each item revaling Wise's vast knowledge of his subject.

And yet this was the man who also trafficked for years in forgeries and fraudulent pamphlets! Today, the Ashley Library is in the British Museum. It was bought from Wise's family for \$180,000.

Wise was unmasked, with poetic justice, by men in the trade he had for so long swindled, two clever antique booksellers.

For some time, here and there, experts had begun to have their supsicions of Wise. It seemed that so often rare pamphlets emanated from him. Then, again, when questioned, he was invariably, though plausible, peculiarly cagey.

These two astute men, John Carter and Graham Pollard. were no doubt aware of one of Wise's tricks, and a very clover one it was.

This was to get two booksellers to bid for one of his own faked pamphlets put up for suction. The two booksellers would be entirely unaware that they were bidding for the same client, and so the bidding would go up to the limit set them by Wise.

A worthless fraudulent pamphlet would be sold for \$150 or more.

But, it may be said, Wise himself was forcing up the price of his own trash and paying for it, too! True, he was, but "This particular item," he could truthfully say to his rich customer, "fetched \$150 only last week at auction."

In this way he would unload a number of copies, each one, it has been reckoned, seldom costing him more than fifty cents.

Examined by paper experts and chemists, and by experts in typography, these so-called rare pamphlets were easily proved to be fraudulent.

In 1934, the two investigators published their findings in a book entitled, sombrely, "An Inquiry Into the Nature of Certain Nineteenth Century Pamphlets."

They brought no direct accusation against Wise. They could not. Although everything pointed to him as the master-mind behind these numerous "rare" pamphlets, there was no direct proof.

And Wise? He said very little and then pleaded sickness when invited to go into details.

He flied without admitting the frauds, but by the day of his death his guilt was no longer in doubt.

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# COLUMNS

By Anne Ashley

How Can 1?

Q. How can I mend worn or torn galoshes?

A. Use black or tan adhesive tape as a mending tissue. It is easy to apply and will hold securely if the work is carefully done.

Q. How can I remove ink spots from paper?

A. By applying a solution of muriate of tin with a soft brush. When the stain disappears, rinse, and then dry the paper carefully.

Q. How can I smooth a scuffed place in the leather of a shoe?

A When you discover a piece of loose leather on a scuffed shoe, do not tear it off. Apply a little liquid nail polish, paste it down securely, shine the shoe, and the place will never be noticeable.

Q. When separating yolks from whites of eggs, and a part of the yolk is dropped into the white, how can I remove it?

A. Moisten a cloth with cold water, touch to the yolk, and it will adhere to it.

Q. How can I remove blackheads from the face?

A. Try washing the face several times a day with warm water and castile soap. Rinse in cold water.

Q. How can I remove ink spots from wall paper? A. Mest ink spots can be re-

moved from wall paper by applying a weak solution of water and oxalic acid. It should be applied with a paint brush and pressed with blotting paper, as the acid might affect the colour of the paper. It may be necessary to repeat this process a second or third time.

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CARINTHIA	Sat. FEB. 8	Cobh, Liverpool	MEDIA	Frl. JAN. 17	Liverpool
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IVERNIA	Fri. FEB. 28	Havre, London (Tilbury)	PARTHIA	Fri. JAN. 31	Liverpeol
CARINTHIA	Sat. MAR. 8	Cobh, Liverpool	CARINTHIA	Fri. FEB. 7	Cobh, Liverpool
SAXONIA	Fri. MAR. 14	Havre, London (Tilbury)	BAXONIA	Thurs, FEB. 13	Havre, London (Tilbury)
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