

On Saturday afternoon, Messrs. J. R. Dixon and Ron Horton, directors of the Hay Hospital, made a collection in the interests of the Hay Hospital Fete, which is to be held on Monday, 15th May. The collectors met with a very gratifying response to their efforts, and have £65 in hand, with their collection not yet completed. One good haul was made at the shire chambers where the collectors found the Council meeting in session. The councillors cheerfully "forked out." Further donations will be gratefully received and will be acknowledged in these columns in due course.

The splendid rains of the past fortnight and the subsequent mild weather have produced a record mushroom crop practically all over the Riverina. It is many years since so many were to be found in the immediate vicinity of Hay, and many residents spent the week-end gathering them.

Official notice was received last week-end by Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Edmunds, of "Mooroolbark," Moulamein, and formerly of Hay, that their son, Corporal L. M. (Mick) Edmunds, was missing. Corporal Edmunds was last heard of a day or two before the capitulation of Singapore.

Word has been received by his mother, Mrs. J. Hulbert, of Sydney, that her son, Driver Francis Alan Ledwidge, who was a Bren gun carrier driver, is now a prisoner of war. Driver Ledwidge was born at Oxley nearly 24 years ago and enlisted in Albury, being trained in Victoria. He had formerly been in Darwin, having driven overland as a driver of a transport, but had departed for overseas some months ago. His mother last heard from him in a letter written on Christmas Day.

At a largely-attended meeting of Balranald district graziers and shearing contractors, it was unanimously decided that the manpower authorities be earnestly asked to reconsider the dates allocated to the district under shearing zone 3, and that an extension be granted, terminating on September 30, in lieu of the date gazetted (August 15), owing to the severity of the season and the weakness of sheep, also because lambing is un-

usually late, taking place in June, July and August. If the date is not extended, many thousands of poor-conditioned lambs and sheep may be lost, causing great hardship to owners. The Moulamein district graziers arrived at the same decision at a largely attended meeting and Mr. R. Eagle was deputed to wait on the authorities in person.

The Board of Directors of the Hay Hospital regrets that in the Court proceedings on Thursday last, a charge against Mr. C. C. Herbert claiming payment of hospital fees, was prosecuted, these fees having actually been collected before the day of the Court.—R. Eagar, secretary.—

The rainfall reports for the week ending last Friday showed that all Riverina had benefitted. Some heavy falls were reported. Wagga had over two inches, bringing the aggregate for the month to over 8 inches. The Far West was also well favoured and Brewarrina had five inches. The reports for the week included:—Wagga 244, Lake Cargelligo 183, Hillston 120, Booligal 109, Maude 57, Burrinjuck 514, Carrathool 117, Darlington Point 173, Moulamein 71, Stony Crossing 51, Wakool 72, Ardlethan 191, Barellan 204, Griffith 162, Leeton 191, Whitton 186, Narrandera 197, Grong Grong 226, Coolamon 226, Conargo 120, Deniliquin 72, Moama 65, Jerilderie 66, Berrigan 96, Finley 174, Tocumwal 118, Urana 142, Lockhart 172. At Hay 15 points of rain fell on Saturday, making the total for the month 313 points, and for the five months of the year 7.73 inches. The figures are the best locally for the month of May since 1931, when 317 points were recorded. The rain registration for April and May totalled five inches, of which all but 23 points fell within the last six weeks.

The Newcastle Jockey Club Winter Plate, run on Saturday, was won by Pantler (6 to 1), with Fearless Fox second, and Tuokool third.