

in airing his theories upon the subject. Juggins, the ledger-keeper, intended to get "full" if he did not get a "rise," in order to drown his grief. Should he be fortunate, however, he would go on the "spree," which meant much about the same thing.

The long looked-for day had come and gone, and with it the hopes and fears of the majority.

It had been a bad financial year; they were to expect better fortune next year.

The "Colonel" would throw up the business and go ostrich farming in Africa. Another would join the army; another go to Canada, farming; another to New Zealand or Australia, "squatting."

It was later than usual when the staff left the office to-day; for they had all been picturing themselves bristling with bowie-