Firms won't write car insurance - 'risk too high'  

SOME Melbourne insurance companies were refusing to handle car insurance risk business, a senior insurance executive said yesterday.

An insurance executive said yesterday she was told by one company it would not renew her car policy unless she gave the company all her other insurance business.

In a letter to clients this week, she said: "This is the only insurance we can renew only if you transfer to us any policies you have with other companies."

An insurance official said: "This result means tough. But we are forced to do it."

She was concerned about increasing claims, including the cost of repairs from storms and flooding.

N.Z. finances "in mess"

Wellington, Thursday

New Zealand has made a small surplus for the first time in 10 years, but its financial difficulties are by no means over.

"The Reserve must be in balance".

The Prime Minister, Mr. T. G. Merivale, said last week that the Reserve must be in balance at the end of the financial year.

The government has been forced to make large reductions in its spending because of the cost of fighting the war.

Alleged theft in sea mail

Southwold, Thursday

A postman has been arrested on suspicion of stealing from the post office in Southwold.

It is alleged that he took three parcels containing valuable goods, including a painting.

The postman has been questioned by police and is expected to be charged with theft.

Gaol tribute to dead warder

ENTRIDGE Gaol WARDERS will march in parade on the day of the funeral of Senior Constable R. A. G. Leonard Maker — known as "the Warder of the Warders".

"Friend of the Friend"

The warder, a respected figure in the force, was killed in an accident involving a motorcycle and a car.

Inland sea has gone

Westhulst, Thursday

The inland sea, which was created by flooding, has disappeared.

It is estimated that the inland sea was flooded by a tidal wave caused by a hurricane.

The local council has decided to drain the inland sea and use the land for agriculture.

"False alarms a menace"

At the Melbourne Press Club yesterday, a fire officer said that "false alarms are a menace".

He said that the fire service received over 500 false alarms last year.

The officer said that false alarms were "costing the fire service a lot of money".

Trams kept going

Only a few trams and buses were cancelled yesterday as a result of the tram strike by drivers and conductors.

A strike was called by the drivers and conductors over conditions in their employment.

The strike was due to end today.

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The Prime Minister said that the government would have to make cuts in its spending to meet the cost of the war.

She wants a public outcry to help mentally sick

A A. J. G. NORRIS yesterday called for a public outcry to force sweeping changes in mental hospitals.

She said that mental hospitals were "in a state of chaos".

"The government must act".

She said that the government must act to improve the conditions in mental hospitals.

The government has been criticized for its treatment of mental patients.

Lived in hulk

Lived in hulk