

## GRUBBING DEMONSTRATION.

### Soldier's Inventions a Success.

At Mitcham on Saturday afternoon several land owners of the district witnessed a successful trial of some new implements for uprooting trees and stumps, and a new type of wire strainer. With an improved grubbing machine, much smaller than similar implements, but capable, it is claimed, of developing twice their power strain, a large gum tree was hauled down in six minutes. In about the same time a smaller tree was forced over with a grubbing jack, estimated to lift 15 tons. A feature of the jack, the adjustment of which permits of a lift of 2ft. 6in., is a transport wheel. Both machines gave the utmost satisfaction during the trials. They are the invention of N. Kotzebue, a Russian, who enlisted in the A.I.F. in 1915, and returned badly wounded in 1917. The inventor claims that a power strain of 80 tons can be developed with the grubbing machine. He offered to compete against two machines of any other make in a power test.

Successful demonstrations were also given with a stump-raising lever and a mid-span wire strainer. The patent rights of these implements are also held by Mr. Kotzebue, whose wounds prevented him from following his pre-service occupation. He was assisted to bring out his patents by the Nunawading Repatriation Committee.

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