

## M'KAY BROS.

AUCTIONEERS AND LAND AGENTS.

FARMS.—If you are considering buying a farm, consult us. We have good farms in all parts of the country and at the right price. If you are selling send us particulars.

HOUSES.—We have some very desirable properties for sale, including some which are eminently suitable for retired farmers.

SECTIONS.—We can show you some of the best building sites available in Invercargill.

M'KAY BROS.,

EXCHANGE MART.

Box—17.

Phone—15.



## OUR STUDY—THE EYE!

WE have made a life-study of the human eye—especially eyes that are affected by weakness and are remediable by Glasses.

How well we are able to advise and help you, you can readily imagine. Why put up with eye troubles when our first-class knowledge and equipment are at your service?

*J.D. Gilmore*

CONSULTING &amp; MANUFACTURING OPTICIAN,

DEE ST. (Opp. P.O.), INVERCARGILL.

## SPEND

THAT £50 TO THE BEST ADVANTAGE

BY spending a pound here and a pound there you cannot buy to the best advantage.

Make out a list and buy from the ONE reliable firm,

**VERNON SMITH & CO.**

ATHENAEUM BUILDINGS, INVERCARGILL.

Our stocks include Household Ironmongery, Glassware, Cutlery, Tools for all trades—in fact everything in the household line.

## "DIGGERS."

BUY your land from a practical farmer, who can advise you right. The following is a sample of a farm proposition we can offer that two soldiers in partnership can be financed into with the assistance of the Board.

258 ACRES—Good agricultural and dairy land; large proportion limed, 24 acres oats, 40 acres turnips, 20 acres oats and grass sown for autumn feed. Almost new six-roomed house, with every modern convenience, including h. and c. water, porcelain bath and basin; washhouse with built-in copper and tubs; six-stalled stable, loose box, barn, implement shed, men's hut. Large cowbyre with milking plant installed.

This property is capable of carrying from 60 to 70 cows, and can be bought for the small price of £13 per acre, including crops. There is money in this. Get in early.

Houses, Businesses, etc., to suit all requirements.

CONSULT—

GILBERTSON AND GUISE,

ESK STREET, INVERCARGILL.

## PROFESSIONAL.

W. Macalister, B.A., LL.B.; S. Morell Macalister, LL.B.; Horace J. Macalister, LL.B.; Alan B. Macalister.

## MACALISTER BROS.,

Barristers and Solicitors,

INVERCARGILL.

Money to Lend on approved security at current rates.

F. G. HALL-JONES, B.A., LL.B. (late Rattray, Armistead and Murray, and late James Harvey).

P.O. Box 48. Telephone 36.

## RATTRAY &amp; HALL-JONES,

BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS,

ESK STREET, INVERCARGILL, N.Z. Solicitors under the Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act for the Otago District.

## "The Digger."

THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 1920.

## CAMOUFLAGE.

A gentle art; brought into prominence during the "Great War" 1914-1919. It has of course always been with us but under another name.

The war has taught its wider application and this wider sphere has worked its way into our national life to such an extent that it is difficult to distinguish between "skim milk masquerading as cream" and the real thing. As far as our political life is concerned it is now the home of refuge for Cabinet Ministers. We frequently hear from Ministers what is being done for the Returned Man. The operations of the "Discharged Soldier's Settlement Act," and other legislative enactments dealing with him are frequently displayed in ministerial summaries. The most successful entry of the "gentle art" into a Government Department, is in the case of the Defence Department, who seem anxious to dispense with the Returned Soldier as quickly as possible. It would almost seem that a balance sheet stands pre-eminent to the sane and legitimate demands of humanity. The recent action of the Defence Department to discharge all men (whether fit or unfit) from the N.Z.E.F. seems all very well on the face of it, but in reality, it is the "gentle art" applied in a more subtle manner. After March 31st of this year the N.Z.E.F. shall cease to exist and the pay of soldiers undergoing treatment in hospitals etc. will also stop. They are still unable to commence work. In this respect the Defence Department reattest them for treatment and hand them over to the Pension Department where a maximum pension of £2 per week is provided for.

As far as actual pay is concerned the difference is not so great but as set out here to clearly indicate the position. The case taken being that of a private—

## — Single Man Discharged. —

Military pay	...	63s weekly.
Full pension	...	40s weekly.
Full supplementary	20s, 60s weekly.	

## — Married Man with Child. —

Full pension	...	40s weekly.
Wife	...	20s weekly.
Supplementary	20s, 90s 6d weekly.	
Child	...	10s 6d weekly.

Although the difference in pay is small, it is a loss to the soldiers. But this argument presupposes the man's pension, supplementary, and wife's pension to be stable things. As a matter of fact they are the direct opposite. The man is decidedly lucky if he gets the full pension of £2 per week and born under a lucky star if he gets the supplementary and his wife also gets consideration. The pay was something sure, the pension is an indefinite quantity. Married men in particular will have to supplement it by taking up some kind of employment. This is another difficulty, because upon re-examination the man has to state the amount he has earned. The Department tell us that it does not influence the pension. But why? it is asked. It's one of the most transparent pieces of camouflage ever perpetrated upon men whose destiny they can to some extent influence. Even allowing the full pension. What is it? in these days, for a man with a wife and family. Nothing more than a continued struggle for existence in which a decent standard of comfort is unattainable. The Invercargill Association has fought the matter, but of no avail. The whole business is simply camouflage and a sacrifice of humanitarian principles.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## THE DIGGER'S LETTER BOX.

All communications to be written in ink and on one side of the paper only.

Addressed Box 310, Invercargill.

## CHATS WITH THE EDITOR

To his Worship the Mayor and Councillors, Invercargill. Gentlemen: We greatly appreciate the good work you have done in furthering the interests of the town. Your Loan proposals although the "Widow's mite" are a step in the right direction. But with all these good things, you like most people, have your sins and omissions. Do you remember, that after the Boer War, Regimental Colours were presented to the Council for the purpose of adorning their Sanctum Sanctorum. They were to be hung in an appropriate place and be an inspiration to the younger generation, and remembrance to those who played their part. Now, Gentlemen, is it fitting that they should lie "where rust and moth doth corrupt," even if there is no temptation for thieves to break through and steal.

## "APRES LE GUERRE."

(To the Editor).

Sir.—Permit me once "Apres le Guerre" to absorb a small proportion of your valuable space, to re-occur at the local Defence Office this week. It is generally known that a soldier who was discharged from the N.Z.E.F. is entitled to a four weeks free railway warrant; and in a lot of cases, owing to trouble in the Railway Department, these warrants were not issued to the soldier on his discharge. He had the option of applying at the local Defence Office at any such time that suited himself within a certain period after his discharge. A man who was discharged last Christmas and who had seen four years' active service approached the local Defence Office for his warrant the other day. He was dressed in civilian clothes as no man is permitted to wear his uniform after discharge. (I have never yet seen a man who did want to wear it). He approached a certain Sergt-Major of several years service (chiefly Home) and the conversation that ensued was something like this.

S.M.: "My man, do you not know that you are in the drill hall?"

Civilian: "Well, I guess that this is where I get that warrant."

S.M.: "Don't you know that you should stand to attention when talking to me in the drill hall?"

C (disgustingly): "Run away. I was standing to attention when you were watching pictures of Charlie Chaplin."

He got the warrant. I pass no comment on this incident, but leave it to your readers to draw their own conclusions.—I am, etc.,

"FOUR BLUE CHEVRONS."

## RE GRATUITY PAYABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE A.I.F.

The Commonwealth Government has decided to pay a War Gratuity of 1s 6d per deim as from the date of embarkation to the Official Signing of Peace, 21st June, 1919. The payment of this rate will be to all members of the Fighting Forces (Naval and Military) of the A.I.F., and dependants of deceased soldiers who left Australia.

Members of the A.I.F., who did not leave Australia will be paid at the rate of 1s a day, from the date of enlistment to the date of discharge.

The gratuity will be paid in the form of non-negotiable bonds, which will bear interest at the rate of 5½ per cent. per annum. The bonds will be received as equivalent to cash for all purposes under Repatriation, Land Settlement, War Service Homes, etc. In cases of hardship, special urgency, marriage of a soldier, or the re-marriage of a soldier's widow, the bonds will be cashed by the Treasury at their full face value.

Australia's share of the indemnity to be paid by Germany in May, 1921, will be specially ear-marked by the Government for the redemption of these bonds. It is estimated that this amount will be anything from seven to fifteen millions, but should Australia's share be less than ten million the Government will make good the deficiency up to ten million.

Forms of application when available will be obtainable from all Branches of the Commonwealth Bank throughout the world, and you may advise any Australian soldier in New Zealand to regularly keep in touch with such institutions.

The scale of pensions granted to the members of the A.I.F., and their dependants is at present being varied a little, but I hope to be in a position to forward you within the course of a week or so a copy of the revised scheme.

## R.S.A. EXECUTIVE.

A meeting of the executive of the Invercargill Returned Soldier's Association was held on Friday 27th inst.

The Nightcaps Association wrote asking for representatives from the Invercargill Returned Soldier's Association to be present at a meeting to be held in Nightcaps, but owing to the fact of the Easter holidays being so close and the annual meeting coming very shortly afterwards it was decided to ask the Nightcaps Association not to hold a meeting until late in April.

—The Visit of the Prince of Wales.—

The Officer Commanding Otago Military District forwarded a letter giving the dates of the Prince's visit, and asked that the R.S.A. make the necessary arrangements to enable men living in the country to be present in Invercargill during the Parade. This would necessitate the issue of railway warrants which will be supplied by the Defence Department and also arrangement for the supply of meals, etc. It was decided that the Association could not bear any expense in connection with the organisation of a parade of soldiers and the supply of meals etc. Col. McDonald to be notified to this effect. The Mayor of Invercargill was also to be communicated with, with a view to obtaining particulars as to what the civic authorities would do in the matter.

The number of gratuity anomalies that had been dealt with by the sub-committee set up for that purpose, were to be forwarded to head-quarters.

—Limbless Men.—

It was decided to communicate with the Town Council with a view to obtaining some concession for limbless men who have to use the tram cars. It was pointed out that there are a number of men, fortunately not very large, who have lost a leg or the use of a leg and that on account of their disabilities these men cannot walk any distance and therefore have to use the cars when travelling to and from their everyday work. Not only that, but some of these men are earning a smaller wage than they would have earned had they not been incapacitated and therefore the increase in tram fares is going to be a very serious matter to them.

—Anzac Day.—

Mr Glass who was convenor of the Anzac Day sub-committee reported on the progress made with the arrangements for the Memorial Service to be held on that day. Everything is well in hand and the Memorial Service will undoubtedly be one of the most impressive services that has been held in Invercargill.

## LECTURE BY DUNCAN RAE.

Mr Duncan Rae will continue his interesting and instructive lecture on Modern History and the events which led to the great war against German domination at the Y.M.C.A. Hall on Thursday, April 8, at 8 p.m. The public are advised to take advantage of this opportunity to hear Mr Rae, and are promised a most interesting and instructive evening. Returned Soldiers should not miss this opportunity and are requested to attend in large numbers.

## LOCAL AND GENERAL

At the farewell social to Mr Philpot, the representative of "The Digger" had the opportunity of meeting Mrs D. McFarlane, and was much surprised by that lady's keen activity and interest in matters pertaining to the town's social welfare.

The Rockery established in Ythan street, just below First Church, about twelve months ago, is flourishing vigorously. For some time the vegetation was limited to dandelion, cocksfoot and thistle, a fine sprig of English broom has now appeared, and provided it is not run over by a motor car or some other vehicle, should greatly enhance the beauties of the rockery.

Mr H. J. Farrar has been a member of the W.E.A. since its inception. He took the opportunity on Thursday evening last of explaining the benefits of membership, and briefly sketched the growth of the movement, which had originated in England some sixteen or seventeen years ago as a result of a Conference between the Labour Councils and the University authorities. The Association had made steady progress, and in Invercargill three classes (Literature, Economics, and Psychology) were well established. This year application had been made to the Otago University for the services of a fourth tutor, it being anticipated that sufficient students would enrol for a class in Modern History.

## PERFECTION IN CLOTHING IN OUR MADE-TO-MEASURE SUITS.

YOU get the full worth of your money in good material, smart cutting, perfect workmanship, and a suit that will give you good service and complete satisfaction. Our prices range from 115s to 210s. A wide range of patterns to select from.

Have you seen our Ready-to-Wear Suits? Neat patterns, smart style, reliable finish. From 95s to 135s.

Tweed Overcoats, 85s to 135s. Rain Coats, 90s to 210s.

Men's Odd Tweed Trousers, 17s 6d to 45s. Men's Odd Vests 7s 6d to 13s 6d.

A special showing of Men's Felt Hats, 19s 6d to 35s.

Inspection invited at—

H. AND J. SMITH, LTD.,

Progressive Stores,

INVERCARGILL AND GORE.

## R.S.A. BILLIARD TOURNAMENT.

J. Dunbar, 20 behind (scr.) beat H. Alsweiller, 60 on.

P. Cook, 60 behind (scr.) beat F. Michel 60 on.

R. Friend, 50 on, beat J. Birt (scr.)

S. Brandford, 70 on, beat T. Thomson, 60 on.

V. Skinner, 40 on beat J. M. Smart, 40 on.

H. Paton, 30 on, beat H. Edmonds, 70 on.

J. Padget, 40 on, beat S. Pay, 50 on.

W. Weavers (scr.), beat J. Phillipine, 40 on.

G. Rogerson a bye.

Dunbar played a fair open game and scored a good win by about 80.

Cook had his work cut out and won by a bare margin.

Friend never looked like a looser at any time.

Brandford and Thompson both played a good game, clean and open.

Skinner made a good recovery in the second hundred and deserved his win.

Paton had a very hard fight until the second hundred was up and won by a bare margin.

Padget played a great game and won easily.

Weavers had an easy win, with 110 to spare.

## ROD AND GUN.

Several stalkers who have paid a visit to the "Wild West" in the vicinity of the Hororata track in quest of Red deer, have returned to town. They report having seen numerous herds and a few stags, but the latter not possessing the quality of head sought after, were left alone.

They propose returning during Easter holidays.

Files just to hand contain particulars of a double barrel shotgun of standard design, that the B.S.A. people are manufacturing 100,000 of, in an attempt upon the market of the British Empire and abroad.

This is the first time, in the history of the sporting gun trade in the Old Country mass production is to be tried.

According to the following details, rifle shooting on full sized range at Otatara will again be in full swing ere long.

Average number of men employed daily is forty-six.

Average monthly rate of progress, three chain of retaining wall and five chain of bridgeway.

Estimated time of completion, September next.

All work is being carried out by the Prison's Department.

To date sixty-seven chain of retaining wall and 111 chain of bridgeway have been completed.

PREPARATIONS for Easter trade are going forward at the

PROGRESSIVE STORES,

with unprecedented enthusiasm. Case after case of novelties—the best and the newest obtainable are arriving daily. There is no end to the ceaseless stream of new bright merchandise flowing into our various departments. Everything in vogue that's wanted will be shown. In our show-rooms there are new numbers every day. Fashion's decrees are being carried out in trimmed hats at popular prices. A charming blouse display; the latest shapes in smartly cut coats, while the costumes are beautiful to look upon. See windows and all departments at—

H. AND J. SMITH, LTD.,

Progressive stores,

INVERCARGILL AND GORE.