

## Good Properties.

If you are on the look out for a Home or a Farm come in and see us. We have several good Houses for sale at the present time and can give

IMMEDIATE  
POSSESSION.

Send us particulars of any Property you have to sell. We can sell it for you.

## McKAY BROS.

AUCTIONEERS AND LAND  
AGENTS  
EXCHANGE MART.  
INVERCARGILL.

Box-17. Phone-15.

CYCLES and all Cycle Sundries for The Digger.

SEWING MACHINES for Mrs Digger.

PRAMS, PUSH CARTS, and PUSH CHAIRS for The Little Diggers.

Repairs to Cycles, Prams, etc., by Expert Mechanics.

Give us a trial and we will do our best for you.

## Thomas Bird,

THE PRAM AND CYCLE SHOP,

122 DEE STREET, INVERCARGILL.

Telephone 862.

### 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.

## Only 1½d A Day.

For this sum you may possess the latest and most concise Encyclopaedia of Human Knowledge published.

## Hamsworth, Universal Encyclopaedia.

The first number is now published.

Remember, it is Absolutely New.

### ORDER NOW.

ONLY 1/9 PER COPY; 2/4 POSTED.

## Bible Depot,

ATHENAEUM BUILDINGS,  
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 & HALL-JONES,  
BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS,  
ESK STREET, INVERCARGILL, N.Z.

MR CHARLES DUERDEN, Pianist, is open for engagement at private parties, dances, socials, etc. Address—25 Princess street, Georgetown, Invercargill.

STOUT & LILLICRAP,  
SOLICITORS,  
Esk street.

MONEY TO LEND  
On Freehold Security at Current Rates of Interest.

KEDDELL & HEWAT.  
BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS,  
72 ESK ST. (Opp. Times Office),  
INVERCARGILL.

Money to Lend on approved security at current rates. Solicitors under Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act.

SOUTHLAND SCHOOL OF HIGHER LAND AND CLASSIC DANCING.  
Rooms over Wesley Brothers, Dee street.

ALEX. SUTHERLAND, Principal.  
Miss Melba Lipscombe, Assistant.  
Box-41. Telephone-1410.

### FOR THE EMPIRE'S CAUSE.

#### IN MEMORIAM.

COCHRAN.—In loving memory of our much beloved one, Allan Carswell Cochran (late Te Tua), 4th N.Z. Field Ambulance, who was killed in action near Armentieres, on June 19, 1917. "And all is well."

"I climb the hill: from end to end Of all the landscape underneath, I find no place that does not breathe Some gracious memory of..." —Tennyson.

—Inserted by his loved ones. 1869

McNEECE.—In loving memory of Private J. McNece, who died of wounds received while in action at Messines, on June 21, 1917. Inserted by his father, mother, brothers and sister. 1905

## "The Digger."

FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 1920.

### T.B. MEN.

The position of T.B. men throughout the Dominion is one that must not be lost sight of. There is a tendency, and a very natural one, that these men sink into a degree of isolation when they become absorbed into civilian life. In the interests of themselves and the public health, no effort should be spared which will help to restore these men to health and enable them to enjoy the good things of life and make them self-supporting. Those of us who have been more fortunate are apt to forget the suffering of these men and the miserable existence a large number of them must have. These men's difficulties have arisen from standing day after day in water and mud and they must receive special attention to ensure effective repatriation. The R.S.A. Conference interviewed the Minister of Lands regarding these men being repatriated on to the land, and it would seem that the most effective method of repatriation would be to place them on small farms such as fruit, poultry, and bees. In a medically certified climate and under satisfactory conditions it would be of immense value to these men and make them self-supporting. Notwithstanding anything we have said regarding the duties we owe to these men in seeing that they are adequately provided for, the men themselves should also consider it a duty to avail themselves of the repatriative measures available. Mr Gunion, who is acting under the jurisdiction of the Dunedin Repatriation Department, assured our representative that very few of the men knew what provision was made for them. This set of conditions has necessitated his trip to Southland, where he will personally interview as many men as possible. There would be no need for this procedure if the men

themselves were to ascertain the facts of the case. Mr Guthrie has stated that these cases were difficult to deal with, especially since there was always a grave risk of the men breaking down and being unable to meet their obligations. In such cases the Land Board has power to make concessions in the way of postponement of rent or interest, which is ultimately collected on the instalment system. This is all very well as far as it goes, but our faith in Ministerial statements has been somewhat shaken of late, in fact both Mr Massey's and Mr Guthrie's promises come within the category of a "scrap of paper," and no longer have the value of assuring returned men that the right thing will be done and that their promises will be carried into practical effect. Mr Gunion stated that the principal object of his mission was to acquaint all T.B. men of existing facilities. At Tauherenikau there is a State Farm where these men are specially provided for. There are shelters, libraries, and places of amusement for them. In the daytime information is imparted to them on bees, fruit, stock, poultry, and other kindred subjects associated with farming. This knowledge is an extension accompanied by practical demonstration of lectures given at the sanatorium. Up to this point the State has adopted the right line of action in providing them with a requisite amount of knowledge essential to successfully prosecute any of these branches of the farming industry. Here is the real difficulty. The State has trained the man and the State has robbed him of the opportunity of putting his knowledge into operation and of making him a self-supporting producer. By its own ill-considered action and the sacrifice of the value of a promise it has curtailed the Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act to such an extent as to make it practically ineffective as far as the repatriation of these men are concerned. The operations of the Act when Parliament meets and a further allocation is made for settlement will not be the same as in the past unless every returned soldier stands by the Association and "four shoulders square." It is possible that we will find Ministers sheltering under whatever may be meant by their pet phrase "Special circumstances." But this can only be meaningless in viewing the Government's recent action in curtailing the provisions of the "Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act." T.B. men throughout Southland should lose no time in getting into touch with Mr Glass, secretary of the Invercargill Repatriation Department, and getting full particulars as to what is available. The Department will erect shelters, glass in verandahs, and, as previously indicated, provide for their training. Applications for shelters, etc., should be made to the medical officer of the district, and in the case of men being broken down in health and requiring further treatment, application to the Defence department is necessary.

### LAND BOARD ELECTION.

Col. Hargest, who is the R.S.A. candidate for the land Board vacancy, has successfully contested the vacancy, being returned by a majority of 122. About half of the Crown settlers recorded their vote. As previously explained in our leading columns, the object of the R.S.A. was to have a representative on a Board which deals with its affairs and our activity was not directed against any particular member of the Board.

### THE DIGGER'S LETTER BOX.

(To the Editor.)

Sir.—In your last issue appears a paragraph by "The Groper," in which he speaks of a setback Invercargill Methodism has recently received, also mentioning different properties of which the church is disposing. The paragraph is just sufficiently a half truth to make it wholly untrue. But it is not with that particular matter that I am concerned. My protest is against the use of your columns to malign and attempt to belittle a Christian church. "Groper's" column is a very Scotch compilation; and this, combined with the fact that he goes to "hear Barridge," studies Dr. Chalmers' sermons, wants to know if Presbyterianism is out-going Methodism, very clearly betrays the fact that his unjustifiable attack arises from sectarian bigotry. "Groper's" par contains a vague accusation of blatant mediocrity preaching German-made theology. I challenge him to prove it. This is either a long shot at a Christian minister who is absent, or a stab in the dark for a present one, an action which suggests a truer German spirit than the subject of his accusation has ever been guilty of. Neither "the gifted C. H. Olds" nor any other right-thinking person would thank your writer for a burst of spirit which is as ignorant and unfair as it is bigoted. Mr Editor, your Groper needs salting. Yours etc.,

CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.

### THE DIGGER'S FRIEND.

"Quiet and unassuming, but, oh, so genuine, and ever since the war commenced a hard and tireless worker for the Empire as a whole, and the Digger in particular." The above was a remark passed to me last Monday when it became known that Captain G. C. A. Todd had died suddenly at his office. Deceased and the late Lieut. Prain, with several others, were instrumental in forming the mounted division of the National Reserve in Southland when the war commenced, and from then on never ceased working until long after the war ended. When the Defence Department depended on the voluntary system to maintain the strength of the various drafts from each province, it was the Mounted Reserve in Southland that was entrusted with the recruiting work that so splendidly kept Southland's quota right up to the mark and the late Captain Todd was one of the leading workers in the movement. He organised parties to go almost to the ends of Southland, and on more than one occasion was specially thanked by the officer commanding the local district for his efforts. Almost simultaneously with the establishment of the compulsory system, our boys commenced returning, and it worried the late Captain Todd very much that there was not a suitable place for them to consider their own to repair to when they required rest or recreation. It was his idea to form the Southland Soldiers' Club, and it was his unbending energy and the enthusiasm he instilled into his committee that enabled such a good club to be formed. He was a busy business man who could always find time to devote minutes or hours as required to the duties of chairman of the committee, and it was greatly due to his tact that the committee in charge of the Club never failed in a single duty to the returned men. When the R.S.A. took over the control of the Club deceased was still chairman, and in addition to a well furnished and appointed club he was able to hand over some £2000 odd in cash as well. The Convalescent Soldiers' Home was another institute he did a great deal for, and there are few returned men throughout Southland to-day who are not deeply indebted to Captain Todd for some personal act of kindness besides the benefits they have received from the Club or Home. The R.S. of Southland have lost a true and generous friend, the civil population a citizen whose broad mind and public spirit made him a most valuable member of the community whom it can ill afford to lose. To his widow and family a very large number of friends will extend their sincere and deep sympathy, and will mourn with them over the loss of one esteemed by all.

### SOUTHLAND LADIES' HOCKEY ASSOCIATION CARNIVAL.

The ladies of the various hockey clubs in the local competition have, for several months, been preparing for the carnival which opened in the Victoria Hall on Wednesday afternoon, under most promising conditions. The carnival was opened by his Worship the Mayor, who congratulated the girls on their enterprise, and wished them every success in securing funds to further the interests of hockey in Southland. It is the intention of the Southland Ladies' Hockey Association, to create funds to enable a representative team to be sent north this season. This is the best way of stimulating interest in the game here, and at the same time, improving the standard of play by getting more experience against northern teams, and also inducing them to repay the visit next season. It is to be hoped the public will support the Hockey Association in their endeavour to place Southland on even terms with the northern provinces. The following are the stall-holders:—Produce Stall (College Club), Mrs Betteridge; Fancy Stall (Collegiate A.), Mrs W. Dey; Plain Stall (Collegiate B.), Mrs Inglis; Sweet Stall (High School), Mrs Gerrard and Miss Lawson; Tea Rooms (Union), Mrs A. McGregor and Miss Walker; Shooting Gallery and Darts, Mr W. Dey and W. Stafford; Soft Drinks Stall, Mr C. Yates. All the local bands have willingly offered their assistance, and with the addition of the Orphans' Orchestra and Mr Sutherland's party, the entertainment part of the carnival is assured.

"THE RED SIGN."—This sign indicates a general reduction in prices, and if you walk along to "Tully's Drapery Supply," next News Office, Dee street, you will not be disappointed, for they are holding a "Real Winter Sale" of all their goods. For confirmation of this, you have only to see the window and door display of drapery, and if you purchase here, we know you will leave us more than satisfied with your bargain purchases. For ladies' hat values see our sale prices. For undershirt values, see our special sale line at 3/11; all shades. For ladies' cashmere finish black hose, you cannot do better than purchase from us. A special value line at 2/11 pair, and the dye is absolutely fast. These should interest you. Tully's Drapery Supply Sale.

### NEW ZEALAND R.S.A.

#### SUSPENSION OF ADVANCES UNDER SECTION 2, DISCHARGED SOLDIERS' SETTLEMENT ACT.

(Copy of schedule of "special circumstances" which was compiled in response to suggestion of Hon. Minister of Lands, and forwarded for submission to Cabinet on June 5th, 1920.)

#### MEMO. FOR THE HON. MINISTER OF LANDS FROM THE N.Z. R.S.A.

As a result of the conferences between yourself and the representatives of the N.Z. R.S.A., the Executive sub-committee of the Association begs to put on record the following statement of the position.

It is understood:

1.—That all applications under the Act will be received and considered.  
2.—That all applications for loans for the purpose of building new houses (and if necessary for the purchase of the sections also) will be approved by the Land Board and monies made available by the Government in the same way as before the 22nd April last; i.e., "special circumstances" will not be taken into account, the sole question being one of fair and reasonable value.

3.—That all applications for loans for the purpose of buying houses already built will in "special circumstances" be approved by the Land Boards, and monies made available by the Government as before 22nd April last.

The Executive Sub-Committee submits that "special circumstances" are to include the following cases:—

(A)—Applications already approved.  
(B)—Applications made at any time in pursuance of a contract entered into or option taken on or before 22nd April last.  
(C)—Applications made for the purchase of a house by a married discharged soldier who has no freehold and no leasehold premises for more than one year from April 22nd, 1920.  
(D)—Any other application in respect of which there will be undue hardship to the soldier, or to his dependents, if the loan is not granted.

It is understood that these proposals are made to tide over any difficulties that may exist until Parliament has provided sufficient funds to enable the Department to carry on the administration of the D.S.S. Act as before 22nd April last.

We need hardly point out that paragraphs 1, 2, and 3, of this memo. on page 1, have already been agreed to by yourself, and that you have agreed to the "special circumstances" as set out in paragraphs (A) and (B) on page one.

We understand, also, that you have agreed to the principle embodied in paragraphs (C) and (D).

For the Executive Sub-Committee of the N.Z.R.S.A.

(Sgd.) D. Stanley Smith, Chairman.

(Copy of reply of the Hon. Minister of Lands, received 16th June, 1920.)

Dear sir.—Immediately on receipt of your letter of the 5th instant in regard to the above I submitted the points raised to the Under-Secretary of Lands for a departmental report and for a legal expression of opinion as to how far they could be given effect to in view of the small amount now remaining in the fund. The papers were returned to me yesterday, when brought them before Cabinet for consideration. After going very fully into the matter in all its aspects, I was directed by Cabinet to inform you that it cannot see its way to commit the Government to the suggestions made, for the following reasons:—

1.—To give effect to them would entail a commitment upon the fund beyond the authority provided by Parliament last session. Such a course is impossible as Cabinet cannot anticipate the action of Parliament with respect to such matters.

2.—In the administration of this important branch of the Lands Department the discretionary powers granted to the administrative officers cannot be restricted in any way if the transaction of the business in an efficient manner is to be maintained.

I am instructed to advise you further for the information of your Association that all applications presented will be received and considered on the merits of each case. Until Parliament meets and decides what amount can be allocated for such advances during the current financial year, the decision of Cabinet to curtail recommendations must be given effect to as the funds at present available demand such curtailment.

It is unnecessary for me to assure you that Cabinet and the Minister in charge of this branch of the Government's repatriation activities is in full sympathy with the returned soldier, and everything possible will be done to allocate the small amount now remaining in the fund to the best advantage. Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) D. H. Guthrie, Minister of Lands.