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### FOR THE EMPIRE'S CAUSE.

#### IN MEMORIAM.

**GRANT.**—In loving memory of Private William James (Vessie) Grant, 18th Reinforcements, who was killed in action at Rosignol Wood, on July 25, 1918; aged 22 years.—Inserted by his loving parents and brother.

## "The Digger."

FRIDAY, JULY 30, 1920.

### MATTERS OF POLICY.

It is very doubtful whether the Government intends to give consideration to matters of policy, from time to time determined by the Annual Conference. At any rate, the Prime Minister has definitely refused to set up a committee of the House, whose duty it would be to report on the policy of the R.S.A. as expressed in questions submitted to Parliamentary candidates prior to the last general election. The Minister of Lands is found lamenting the fact that so few applications come from returned soldiers for bush land, but the Government itself has decreased the attractiveness of this class of land through failure to provide adequate security for the settler by giving him sufficient advances to effectually get a start. However, the Minister is apparently not disposed to be influenced by any aspect of the R.S.A. policy which has a direct bearing upon this important phase of settlement. The Discharged Soldier's Settlement Act makes provision for certain advances which the R.S.A. have consistently advised the Minister were inadequate. Bush settlement means going into the backblocks with no good roads, telephone, or house. The bush has to be fallen, and it is a considerable time before the settler gets a return, which in its initiatory stages is very small. By the time the land is fenced, sown, and all necessary work is executed, it has meant a considerable outlay of money which the average man has not got. For a settler to have to go to work and earn sufficient to keep body and soul together while the land is needing his labour is neither in the interest of the soldier or the state. By the bringing into production our virgin country, we are following lines essential to the welfare of the Dominion. One of the first things a settler has to make provision for is a home for his wife and family. It is not suggested that it should be a luxurious dwelling, but it is justly entitled to be one that will enable them to have a reasonable standard of comfort. The Act provides for £250 for buildings, and it needs no elaborating that it is

totally insufficient. The R.S.A. have consistently asked the Minister to increase the amount in the case of married men to £400, with an additional £50 for each child. Even taking these figures into consideration we know that it is a very small standard of comfort than can be attained by a man with a wife and family. In addition to the house there are outbuildings required, and yet the Minister does not seem to see that this is one of the factors which makes for the set of conditions which he deprecates. The first thought of a man with a family is "what comfort can I provide for them?" and in the initiatory stages of the man's reasoning the proposition ceases to be attractive. It is further suggested that the amount advanced for stock be substantially increased. It is self-evident that, on the lowest estimate, a settler must have sufficient turnover to keep his home going, to fall more bush, sow grass, and all other conditions essential to his progress. His rent has to be met and although it is not expected that his turnover will be of any magnitude, he must be in the position to secure as much stock as will, with care, keep him going until he has accomplished sufficient breeding and development work to do without a loan. Many a settler is to-day struggling to make both ends meet and is handicapped through not having sufficient stock.

In the initial work essential to this class of land, it is evident that some considerable time elapses before it is reproductive, and is there any valid reason why a proportionate amount of the rent should not be remitted? The land is being improved, and is an increased asset to the Dominion, and the Departments own money is safely spent. This will provide adequate security, and the remission of the rent for the first year or two would be an important factor in encouraging settlers and enable them to find a greater degree of stability.

### "THE DIGGER" IN AMERICA.

**HAYWARD TIRE EQUIPMENT CO.,**  
INDIANAPOLIS, IND., U.S.A.

The B. and F. Rubber Company,  
Kelvin Street,  
Invercargill.

Gentlemen,—We have just received a marked copy of "The Digger," of April 16th., which you kindly sent us, and we very sincerely thank you for same.

We shall use the write-up in Motor Notes in our publicity. We are very greatly pleased to note the excellent business that you have started, and we feel sure that your business will continue to expand, and we take this occasion to extend our best wishes for a very prosperous future.

We note the name of your firm which we have used in addressing this letter, and we are changing our file records from Boyce and Fleming, to B. and F. Rubber Company, assuming that all correspondence should be conducted in the name of your company from this time forth.—Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) F. A. BABCOCK,  
Export Manager.

### WAIHOPIA AND PARK SCHOOLS' ROLL OF HONOUR.

Attention is drawn to the advertisement appearing in our casual columns regarding the above Roll of Honour. The function is to take place on Wednesday, August 4th., at 2.30 p.m., at the Waihopia main school. Some time ago the Park School was merged into the Waihopia, but the Roll of Honour contains names from both of these schools.

An interesting programme has been arranged and the headmaster is anxious to see as many returned soldiers there as possible. As many returned men as possible should attend and help to make the function a success. This will have a good effect upon the children, and the wearing of uniforms would be welcome. The 8th Regimental Band will be in attendance.

The following will take part in the proceedings: Chairman, Mr Jas. Ward, Mr J. C. Thompson (chairman, Education Board), His Worship the Mayor, Capt. Rae (President R.S.A.), Mr D. McNeil (headmaster Waihopia school), Mr Jas. Orr (for 22 years headmaster Park school), Mrs F. E. McChesney, Mr Geo. Humphrey, and Chaplain Captain Gilbert.

Among the urgent needs of life, Without which we could ne'er endure, Is one when coughs and colds are rife, And that is Woods' Peppermint Cure. It meets the need in every case, It clears of symptoms every trace, In gastric ailments just as sure, Is peerless Wood's Great Peppermint Cure.

### NEWS IN BRIEF.

Owing to lack of explosives very little coal is being obtained from the Wairoa district.

A party of Father Jerger's supporters have left for Colombo to make further representations for his release.

A boy was killed in Christchurch while attempting to alight from a tram car while in motion.

The American Cup Race was won by the Resolute. Sir Thomas Lipton states that he will build another boat and issue a challenge for 1922.

At last meeting of the Invercargill Town Council an anonymous writer suggested the post office square as the best site for a soldier's memorial, and offering £2000 if his plan is carried out.

Two memorial tablets have been unveiled at Makarewa. One at the school with 21 names, and one in the public hall with 42 returned men's names on it.

A meeting was held at Nightcaps to consider ways and means to get a residential doctor. One speaker declared that a state doctor was as essential as a state post office.

Great and varied are the ways of some John Hops. To fill the roll of carter in the day-time and put the nips into the Roopies Convalescent Homes at night-time is indeed an accomplishment. The worth of "Skip" to the Department is indeed great.

Mr J. R. Hamilton, M.P., asked a question in the House asking the Government if the analysis of manures could be expressed in plain English instead of in the chemical formulae.

During a dense fog in Wellington harbour the ferry steamer Duchess rammed the New Zealand Shipping Company's Ruahine. Considerable damage was done and the boilers of the Duchess were moved six inches forward through the impact.

Replying to Mr J. R. Hamilton, Mr Massey stated that he didn't know what Auckland merchants were supposed to be concerned in the sale of 150,000 bags of "paper" oats. To his mind the practice was most objectionable and he would have enquiries made to ascertain if it was legal.

The Nightcaps correspondent to the "Western Star," reports that B. Somerville has returned with his Old Country bride. The residents turned out with the tin can band, but the police officer "put his foot down." Down where? on the bride, the band, or Frank Boyles' cellar. Following this paragraph is the report of the Sunday afternoon band concert. "The Digger" is anxious to know whether it was the tin can band, or the real band which, at a recent meeting held by them, had the hall packed to overflowing as an indication of the support the band received at "Caps."

During the past few days Mr G. A. Lamb, secretary of South Island Dairy Association, has been making a tour through the dairying districts of South Otago and Southland, for the express purpose of enlisting the practical sympathy of the directors of the various dairy co-operations operating within the territory indicated in connection with the scheme for the co-operative marketing of the Dominion's cheese exports, etc. Mr Lamb reports that he is meeting with gratifying success on his mission. The following factories have already signed up with the Co-operative Association:—Mosgiel, Kaitangata, Paratai, Wairuna, Pukerau, Waikaka, Wyndham, Edendale, Oware, Brydone—the four last named alone guaranteeing 1000 tons cheese. Several factories in Southland have still to be looked up. The results so far revealed are very promising in the interests of Co-operative dairying.

Latest cablegrams from England are to the effect that prices are still rising. Local firms holding huge stocks are in a hesitation to supply customers with goods at prices 50 per cent. cheaper than wholesale rates in England to-day. With this object in view we offer the following special lines, which speak for themselves: Silk scarves, in all colours and stripes, 1/6, 2/3, 3/11, 10/6 to 35/-. Rosedale blanket scarves, in cream only, quick sale price, 3/11. Embroidery edgings, in newest patterns, 5/4d, 6/4d, 9d to 2/6 yard. Camisole embroidery, 1/6, 1/9 to 5/11. Domes, black and white, to clear at three dozen for 6d. Specials in hat ribbons, all colours, a gift at 9/ yard. See our window for neckwear, all one price, 1/-. Handkerchiefs, in high-class qualities, half a dozen for 2/11, and 3d, 6d, 7d, 10d to 2/3 each. Further reductions in hosiery. Black list, to clear, 2/11, 3/3 and 4/6 pair. Rosedale pure wool, in black only, 4/11 to clear. See Fancy Department for bargains, at H. and J. Smith, Ltd., Progressive Stores, Tay street, Invercargill, and Main street, Gore.

### WAIRO HUNT.

Jack Hogan sent an apology stating that as his first lieutenant, Mr J. Egan, was away on business, he could not attend the hunt.

M. J. Egan (sergeant), still has a good grip of the saddle and rides to the hounds with a lot of his old dash. Plenty of ginger, eh Mick!

It is said that Jack Hogan put in a solid fortnight on the banjo to get in form for the hunt, and that a special mount was on the ground for him, but as no other suitable rider could be procured, the rugs were not taken off the neddies.

Matt Gaines, on "Finance," was very careful. His mount is a bit green yet but with patience and experience he promises to develop into a useful sort.

Martin Forde, on "Engagement," is one who does not take any risks. He keeps well out of the ruck and is perhaps a bit carnary. Put more ginger into it, old chap, or perhaps you "May" get left at the next fence.

Jack Kirkwood, on "Bess," in the jumping event, was in need of a bit of secotone. Don't get so far away from the pigskin, Jack, one would think you were sitting on a packet of tacks.

Charlie Keen had a great battle to get the first to come to Wairoa, but he landed it. More power to you Charlie!

Jack O'Brien did not appear too comfortable on the "Broker." I think he is mis-named—they should call him the "Battler."

After the hunt, refreshments, both liquid and solid, were handed round, and once again the Wairoa folk showed they know the meaning of hospitality, and also showed what good sports they are by subscribing the "higgest hat," a record for the season, beating the previous best by a substantial amount. After the hunt a jumping competition over three flights of hurdles took place, which resulted in Lavina, A. Ellis, 1st; Bess of Kirkwood, 2nd. There were seven competitors. Mr T. Egan presented a whip for the best rider over the hurdles, and this was won by Mr A. Ellis. Amongst the followers noticed: The Huntsman on Red Troon; The Whip, E. Ellis, on Lavina; The Master, Martin O'Brien, on Bess; F. Miller, Vocation; A. Ellis, Silent King; J. Cregan, Maori; H. Marshall, Downfall; M. J. Egan, Monowai; Martin Forde, Engagement; J. Duggan, Puglist; C. Keen, Sport; M. Gaines, Finance; D. McCall, Profitier; G. Bain, Hops; F. Boyle, Liqueur; J. McGee, First Aid; P. Gallagher, Surfaceman; T. Kirkpatrick, The Gaffer; D. Muir, Waikoura; H. Keen, Drummond; T. Hoare, Tuapeka; W. Compton, Queensland; M. P. Egan, Riverside; A. Clapp, Codford; W. Taylor, Steamboy; and J. O'Brien, on the "Broker."

### ARCHER, ISITT AND A DENIAL.

In opposition to the Rev. J. K. Archer's appointment as economics tutor under the Canterbury College Board of Governors, Mr L. M. Isitt, M.P., remarked that Mr Archer had held a similar position in Invercargill and had there exhibited a most fest bias and propagandist style. Mr Archer has written to the "Lyttelton Times" in reply to Mr Isitt's attack generally, and in his letter he says: "Mr Isitt's statement concerning Invercargill is news to me. Since the previous meeting of the board he has, I presume, fussed about some malcontent willing to furnish him with a growl. If Mr Isitt cares to consult the back numbers of the two Invercargill newspapers, neither of which stands for Labour propaganda, he will discover firstly, that they both thought it worth while to report the whole of my 24 lectures on economics, and secondly, that when I came north they published complimentary remarks which were made concerning my work as a lecturer."

The above paragraph appeared in the local papers. Mr Archer lectured on economics to the Workers' Educational Association, an institution which Mr Isitt knows nothing about. He seems very much afraid that economic views may be expounded which are not parallel with his own views, which have been moulded in shape by a long political career which has been reproductive of nothing. Our representative interviewed the officials of the W.E.A. in Invercargill, and a number of students who received instruction from him. Their unanimous decision was that Mr Archer was an ideal tutor, clear, explicit, and showed no tendency to adopt extreme measures. "The Digger" would like to know where Mr Isitt got his information, and will provide more evidence than Mr Isitt can regarding Mr Archer's control of the local economic class.—Editor.

A return prepared by the Southland Education Board shows that £22,000 is required for new schools, replacing worn out buildings, additions and repairs.