

any statement that the pro-
from some other Board. The
Board was the one inconveni-
Now that the amendment is
the Board are legally entitled to
chairman abroad, and the Audi-
general is defeated. The provision in
amendment which seeks the approval
Minister for Public Works is cap-
of political influence.

Section 20 (original Act), as amend-
Section 6, Amendment Act:—In-
Borough Council considers chair-
ofarium should not exceed £500
and object to amendment as
as important principle affect-
Local Bodies is involved.

ing the above amendment it was
by the Board that in the event
Section 1, of Section 20, of the
being amended as drafted by the

It is recommended that the
of Public Works provide that
man's salary be £1000 per
Now, why is all this to be
the category of confidential?

Board may explain things as they
see. They may treat the Town Council
contempt. The "Southland Times"
say, "hands off the Board," and

On Lillcrap. But are the Coun-
not correct when they say that an
principle affecting Local Bodies

and? The explanation was given
at meeting that all these provi-
nated at the conference of Power
and under this explanation the
nollors suggestions were regarded as

"outcome of ignorance." To put the
plainly they originated with the
and were referred to a Conference

was a suggestion from the local
This was some time after and
conference was the outcome of the
later for Public Works stating that he

to preserve intact as much of the
local Act as possible.

At the first meeting in July the Board
ived a copy of the draft Bill from the
rd's solicitor. So it is evident the
was authorised long before this

The Bill was comprehensive as in-
ted by the following analysis:—

Short title.
Definition, ratepayer, transmission
constituent local authority.

First meeting of the Board.
Chairman's remuneration.
Roll for poll purposes and methods
making poll.

Rate, alternative, method of collec-
and 8. Machinery for collecting rate,
annual meeting.

Profit and loss account.
Information for Order in Council.
Addition to power boards, tunnels,
distribution line.

By-laws.
Penalties.
After due consideration it was ap-
oved by the Board. At a subsequent

eting of the Board it was explained
at the Minister had been asked to ex-
dite the Bill and at this meeting the
conference was suggested.

CHAIRMAN'S TRIP ABROAD.
In a previous paragraph we have re-
turned to the Board's decision on this
atter. The conditions are that the
ard pay the whole of the travelling

ences, first-class steamer fare, railway,
other transport fares as required, and
reasonable incidental expenses. The
act was not wide enough in its pro-
for payment of "reasonable ex-

And we are justified in asking
the limited phrase should be associa-
the terms of the Board's decision
its chairman abroad?

MANAGING DIRECTOR.
Our readers will remember that we
ception to the chairman letting a
which the Board had decided to
again. The chairman justified his
stating to us that he was in the
of a managing director.

Thas correct and it follows that the
ard has delegated its power, which
never intended in the spirit of
The attention of the Board was
to the fact that the whole thing
commercial undertaking and must
be done to a commercial company

has a managing director. At a
meeting the joint position of
man and managing director was
it. At a meeting in the month of

it was decided that the chairman
£200 per annum (which is the maxi-
amount payable under the Act, but
thing to do with the appointment of
naging director).

ENGINEER'S AGREEMENT.
We have frequently stated through
columns that the Board exists as
piece of machinery to satisfy legislative
requirements. In the first place it is con-
aded that the chairman has power to

let a contract even if the Board decides
that it be advertised again.

Second: That the engineers have full
power over the construction department.
There is nothing else but construction.
The Engineers control the books and Mr
Campbell is the Board's executive officer
and is responsible to the Audit Depart-
ment. We have said before that there
was real trouble between the two depart-
ments and things came to a head at the
last meeting. Mr Bowmar is to be con-
gratulated on the way he stuck to his
enquiry and declined to deviate from the
point. Mr Young is to go through the
books and we hope that when this matter
comes before the Board it will be con-
ducted in open meeting. We have been
asked not to publish this piece of mud-
dling, but why should things go on in this
way. As things are the executive officer's
position is untenable. All this is through
the powers delegated to the engineers by
the agreement and no wonder Mr
Fowler was emphatic that the Board re-
consider the agreement. With the same
emphasis as he demanded this, we state
that the engineers' agreement should be
placed on the table for the press.

FINANCE.
As previously stated we will not dis-
close the financial arrangements but there
can be no harm in giving the position
regarding Sir Joseph Ward's loan. When
Sir Joseph Ward arrived home he found a
new set of conditions existing and the
position at that time is as follows:—
First loan £1,500,000, second 6½ per cent.,
third floated at £93, fourth term 20 years
with annual drawings with right to repay
in ten years, fifth to be underwritten at
3 per cent., making cost £160,000. Total
amount receivable £1,340,000.

THE PRESS.
At the last meeting of the Board ar-
rangements were made for the Board to
visit the works and to be accompanied by
the press. The chairman gave a lead
to the Board to invite the Invercargill
dailies and the Maitland Ensign, but the
Board promptly added "The Digger" to
the list. Now we feel inclined to go a
step further and say that the Board
should have invited the editors of the
other papers and not confined it to the
four principal papers.

At the last meeting the chairman stated
that he was going to bring down a state-
ment for the annual meeting and the
people would be told as much as possible
about the financial position. The statement
is to be handed to the Press, and we hope
it will be a complete analysis, and we
suggest that the engineer's agreement ac-
company it. When we are asked not to
publish legal expenses and matters per-
taining to muddling we are decidedly un-
easy. The legal expenses of £1000 (in
round figures), which were published
against the wishes of the Board have
caused a great deal of hostility, but we
have a duty to perform to the public
which stands pre-eminent, and when all
trace of secrecy, and autocratic control
is eliminated, we shall be the first to as-
sist the Board to bring the scheme to a
successful termination.—Editor, "Digger."

THE DIGGER'S LETTER BOX.
Gavin Brighton.—Owing to pressure on
our space owing to Power Board matters
your communication was held over until
next week.

Messrs H. and B.—Your notes for our
Angling Column are welcome, and will be
incorporated in our next column.—Edt.

"Dick" and "Hal," Round Hill, via
Colac Bay.—Glad to have your stories.
They are very nice and will be published
in next week's issue.—Mater.

THE AMBULANCE.
(To the Editor).
Sir,—Will you allow me to take up
some of your valuable space in voicing a
complaint? I have a small property at
Awarua nine miles from Invercargill, and
recently had occasion to ring up for the
ambulance my wife being ill. I sent the
message between 1.45 and 2 p.m., and
the ambulance arrived at 2.30, and
reached the hospital at 3 o'clock, for
which service I was charged £1 14s, the
distance being nine miles each way. I
consider this an exorbitant charge and a
case of profiteering. It is a nice way
to treat a man in my position, one who
fought for his country and when he re-
turned acquired a small place in which
to settle down. I have been told that
at the time of the influenza epidemic the
ambulance went out to Rimu and brought
to town a patient, the distance there and
back being twenty-two miles, and that
the charge did not exceed 15s.—I am,
etc.,
RETURNED SOLDIER.

SOUTHLAND COUNTY.

THE COUNTIES ACT, 1908.

LOCAL ELECTIONS AND POLLS ACT,
1908.ELECTION OF NINE COUNCILLORS
FOR THE VARIOUS RIDINGS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an
Election for the return of a Council-
lor for each of the undermentioned Rid-
ings will be held on WEDNESDAY, the
10th November, 1920.

Candidates for the Offices must be
nominated in the manner prescribed in
"The Local Elections and Polls Act,
1908." Nomination papers must be de-
livered to the Returning Officer or ad-
dressed to him, and delivered at the
Southland County Council Office, Clyde
street, Invercargill, not later than noon
on MONDAY, 1st November, 1920.

WAIHOPAI RIDING.
AWARUA RIDING.
WALLACETOWN RIDING.
WINTON RIDING.
ORETI RIDING.
HOKONUI RIDING.
WAIKAI RIDING.
MATAURA RIDING.
TOETOES RIDING.

The Poll, if required, will be taken on
the day appointed for the Election, name-
ly, 10th November, 1920.

A. J. SERVICE,

Returning Officer.

Southland County Council Office,
Invercargill, October 8, 1920. 1687

SOUTHLAND COUNTY.

"HOSPITALS AND CHARITABLE
INSTITUTIONS ACT, 1909."ELECTION OF SIX REPRESENTA-
TIVES ON SOUTHLAND HOSPITAL
AND CHARITABLE AID BOARD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an
Election for the return of six Repre-
sentatives to the Southland Hospital and
Charitable Aid Board will be held on
WEDNESDAY, November 10, 1920.

Candidates for the office must be
nominated in the manner prescribed in
"The Local Elections and Polls Act,
1908."

Nomination papers must be delivered
to the Returning Officer or addressed to
him, and delivered at the Southland
County Council Office, Clyde street, In-
vercargill, not later than noon on MON-
DAY, November 1, 1920.

Nominations must be accompanied by a
deposit of three pounds sterling.

The Poll, if required, will be taken on
the day appointed for the Election,
namely, November 10, 1920.

A. J. SERVICE,

Returning Officer.

Southland County Council Office,
Invercargill, October 8, 1920. 1688District Lands and Survey Office,
Invercargill, October 11, 1920.

NOTICE is hereby given that leases of
the undermentioned lands for a term
of fourteen years will be submitted for
sale by public auction at this office on
TUESDAY, 23rd November, 1920, at 11
o'clock a.m.

Sections 69, 70, 75, 76, Block III., Sea-
ward Bush, 17 acres. Upset Rental
£10.

Sections 11, 51 to 55 and 57, Block V.,
Lindhurst Hundred, 751 acres. Upset
rental £60. (Improvements £215 for
fencing).

Sections 7, 7a, 7b, Block XIV., Jacobs
River Hundred, 88 acres. Upset
rental £20. About 1½ miles from
Fairfax.

Full particulars, including sale plans,
may be obtained on application to this
office.

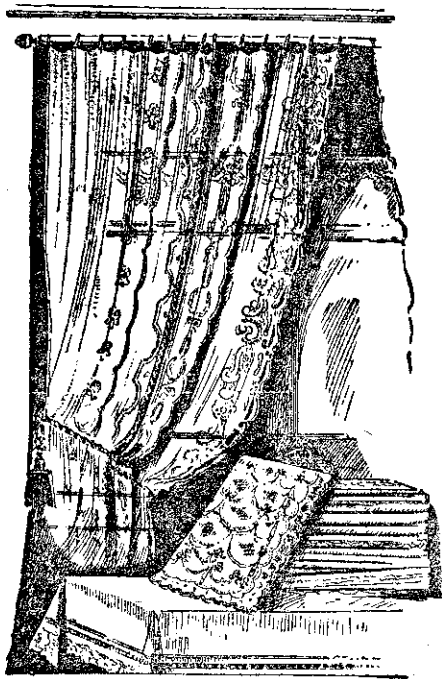
THOS. BROOK,

Commissioner of Crown Lands.

SPECIAL SPRING DISPLAY
OF FURNISHINGS

—AT—

"THE EXHIBITION."



We are making a special
Window Display of Furnish-
ings this week, and would es-
teem a visit of inspection.

In Madras Curtaining we
have a specially wide and
choice range and these will be
the principal feature of this
display.

MADRAS MUSLINS.

In Plain Cream, with Plain
and Scalloped Borders, from
3/9 to 5/11 yard.

In Cream, with Coloured
Borders, from 3/6 to 10/6 yard.

Also a large variety of Dark
and Coloured Madras at 7/9 to
14/6 yard.

HEARTHUGS.

A very good selection in
AXMINSTER from 32/6 to
60s.

SOFA SQUARES in VEL-
VET PILE, at 89/6.
SOFA SQUARES in TAPES-
TRY, at 57/6.

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CALEDONIAN HOTEL,

DUNEDIN.

TUAPEKA ALE AND SPEIGHT'S ALWAYS ON TAP.

P. V. STEVENS, Prop.,

19 Carrol street,
Dunedin.

Good morning Miss Smith: I see
you have a new cycle. Yes I bought
it at CAMPBELL'S. Did you? It's a
sister to mine then, I have dealt at
Campbell's ever since they have start-
ed business.

Everything stocked for the Cyclist
and Motorist.

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Dee St.

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