

MOUNT GAMBIER AND DISTRICT.

[From our Correspondent.]

MOUNT GAMBIER, Monday.

Christ Church Memorial Porch.—The foundation stone of the porch in honor of the boys connected with Christ Church, who participated in the great European war, was laid on Wednesday afternoon. There was a large assemblage of parishioners and others to witness the ceremony, which was performed by Lance-Cpl. Donald Brooke (son of Mr W. S. Brooke, of the National Bank, Mount Gambier), who served his country throughout practically the whole of the war. The stone, which was presented and lettered by Mr A. Burrell, bore the following inscription:—"This porch was erected in honor of those who went from this parish to serve in the great war, 1914-1918. This stone was laid on June 4, 1919." The inside measurements of the porch are 12 feet by 10 feet, and the floor will be tiled. Marble tablets for the names of the 180 soldiers will be placed on the east side of the porch. The structure is estimated to cost £300 and already £230 has been voluntarily subscribed.

Soldiers.—Mrs W. Smith has received from the Australian Red Cross Society, the following particulars with regard to the death of her son, Private J. H. Smith, M.M., of the 7th Battalion:—"We have received from our London agents the following report concerning the above named who died of wounds on August 23, 1918:—"Corpl. A. S. Douglas, No. 4683, of the 7th Battalion, has stated:—"Was Lance-Corpl. in B Company, 7th Battalion, big well built, very active, well liked by all the boys, and life of the platoon; got Military Medal for previous stunt, but it only came out in orders after he was dead. We were advancing at St. Malins Wood, and were well in the lead; it was about 9 or 10 a.m. on 23rd August. I saw him hit by machine gun bullet in the head. We stopped and bandaged him up; he was unconscious. Stretcher bearers came up and took him away to the dressing station, and I saw no more of him." This report is confirmed by Lance-Cpl. W. Fearn, of the 7th Battalion."—Mrs Jas. MacPherson has been advised that her son, Driver W. G. Rackett, M.M., is on his way home and is expected to arrive by the Runic on June 7.

Wedding.—At Christ Church on Wednesday morning, Miss Norah K. Needham, daughter of the late Mr R. J. Needham, formerly chief inspector of

Needham, daughter of the late Mr R. J. Needham, formerly chief inspector of stock, was united in matrimony with Mr Wm. Edkins, manager of Mr T. C. Ellis's Benara estate. The ceremony, which caused a large amount of public interest, was performed by the Ven Archdeacon Samwell. The bride was handsomely gowned in a rich costume of ivory white crepe de chine and georgette. The skirt was worn with side panel effects through which showed a glimmer of pink and blue embroideries, and the train was lined with pale pink crepe de chene. The wedding veil was first worn by a bride 60 years ago, and was a beautiful piece of work. It was lent by a friend in Tasmania. The bouquet was composed of white flowers, with a touch of pale pink, and tied with long tulle streamers, each weighted with a tiny posy of English honeysuckle. The bride was attended by her sisters, Misses Muriel and Millicent Needham, as bridesmaids, and little Barbara Sheppard acted as trainbearer. Messrs Harold Stewart (Victoria) and H. Ellis acted as best man and groomsman, respectively. Mr and Mrs Edkins, who are spending their honeymoon in Victoria, will in future reside at Coola.

The Influenza Epidemic.—Further cases of influenza have appeared in the district. On Tuesday afternoon, Mrs F. W. Matschoss, who had given her services at the high school as a nurse, was stricken down, and there was no one left to attend the patients. Mr J. Marsh was secured at 3 o'clock on Wednesday, and relief could be found. On Wednesday the Mayor (Mr G. E. Truman) secured the service of Miss Rollison, who was at Mount Gambier assisting her sister, who was ill, and she went to the hospital until other help was forthcoming. The Mayor's eldest daughter took Miss Rollison's place with the latter's sister. The Mayor telegraphed on Wednesday to the Central Board of Health for assistance, and Dr Ransay Smith replied that he had instructed the Narracoorte board to send Sister McKay to the Mount. The Narracoorte board declined, however, stating that there was a case of pneumonic influenza there, and that she was required for this. The Mayor communicated again with Dr Smith, and was advised that a matron and a nurse would be sent from the city on Thursday. In the meantime Mr Marsh had been working for 26 hours without rest, and Miss Rollison was also strenuously occupied. By train on Thursday night the two nurses promised—Sister Leahy and Nurse Scott—arrived, and next morning relieved Miss Rollison. On Thursday afternoon a woman with a family from Sutton Town was brought to the hospital seriously ill. Two more patients were brought in on Saturday, bringing the

seriously ill. Two more patients were brought in on Saturday, bringing the total at present isolated, to twelve. Mr and Mrs R. M. Poole and Mr J. Lock, of Benara, have been released and are now convalescent. Owing to a belief by the Local Board that a number of cases of influenza could be traced to the Sutton Town public school an effort is being made by the local board to close the school.