

ROLL OF HONOUR.

7. Up to the end of March last the Public Service of the Dominion has suffered the loss in action, or as the result of the war, of 111 officers. The names of these officers are again shown in the departmental lists. The Service has reason to point with pride to the good record of its officers who are fighting abroad.

8. The following honours have been awarded to our soldiers of the Public Service :—

Cross of the Legion of Honour.—Major H. S. Whitehorn, Topographer, Mines Department, Wellington.

Military Cross.—2nd Lieutenant S. T. Seddon, Surveyor, Lands and Survey Department, Nelson.

Military Medal.—Corporal H. G. Wilson, Clerk, Defence Department, Wellington; Corporal P. G. Pearce, Clerk, Valuation Department, Wellington.

Distinguished-conduct Medal.—Sergeant G. J. M. Gair, Examiner, Audit Department, Wellington.

Post and Telegraph Department.

Distinguished-service Order.—Major C. McGilp, Telegraphist.

Distinguished-conduct Medal.—Corporal A. W. Brown, Telegraphist; Sergeant F. W. Moore, Clerk.

Military Medal.—Sapper J. E. Hollywood, Lineman; Second Corporal P. L. Keys, Telegraphist; Sapper W. J. Kingham, Telegraphist; Sapper P. McQuillan, Lineman; Sergeant G. V. T. Moore, Postmaster; Sapper W. G. F. Pinkham, Cadet; Sapper R. J. Pratt, Lineman; Sapper C. H. Raxworthy, Clerk (died of wounds).

Mentioned in Despatches.—Lieutenant E. Burrows, Clerk (killed in action); Lieutenant T. P. M. Grace, Clerk (killed in action); Lance-Corporal J. E. Hollywood, Lineman; Corporal P. D. Holmes, Telegraphist; Major C. McGilp, Telegraphist; Sergeant F. W. Moor, Clerk; Captain (temporary Major) R. F. C. Scott, Clerk (died of wounds); Sapper W. Ward, Lineman.

Cross of Karageorge, with Swords, 1st Class.—Lance-Corporal W. A. Birkett, Letter-carrier.

Serbian Silver Medal.—Corporal P. D. Holmes, Telegraphist.

WORK OF COMMISSIONERS.

9. The services of Mr. Triggs, Assistant Commissioner, have continued to be utilized by Government as Controller of the Department of Imperial Government Supplies. The duties attaching to the office involve the charge of all the business details connected with the requisition received from the Imperial Government for the purchase and shipment of the entire output of frozen beef, mutton, and lamb available for export; the charge of all the business arising out of the purchase and export of wool (greasy, slipe, and scoured), sheep-skins, hides, and calf-skins (subsequent to the period of valuation); and also of the business arising out of the purchase and export of cheese and scheelite on Imperial Government account. Further, Mr. Triggs was appointed Licensing Authority by Government, in pursuance of an Order in Council dated 30th October, 1916, in regard to the butter-fat levy scheme.

10. Mr. Triggs has also acted during the past year as Government representative on the New Zealand Overseas Shipowners Committee.

11. A fair amount of inspection has been done, but it is difficult under present conditions to devote so much time to this work as is desirable. The Commissioners mark with satisfaction a general all-round improvement in most of the offices visited. The principal places outside of Wellington visited during the year have been Napier, New Plymouth, Stratford, Hastings, Dannevirke, Masterton, Gisborne, Invercargill, and Dunedin. A special inspection of the clerical work of the Head Office and the Wellington office of the Police Department was made at the request of the Minister in Charge.