

Notes

INVERCARGILL

Probably at no time in the history of Invercargill have there been so many tenantless houses, says the "Southland Times." In the south part of the town the legends "To Let" and "For Sale" are particularly conspicuous, no fewer than twenty of these placards being visible within a small radius. The majority of these dwellings have apparently never been occupied, and bear evidence of having been constructed with a view to sale in the pre-war days, when house building with this intent was considered a lucrative proposition. Some of the buildings, however, are of considerable age, their former tenants having possibly removed into more up-to-date establishments. It would not seem that, apart from those who have gone to the front, there has been any diminution in the population of the town since 1910, when empty houses were a thing unknown. Overbuilding, with the consequent excess of supply over demand, probably accounts for the present state of things, while there have been many instances in which young fellows, now at the front, built homes in anticipation of getting married prior to the outbreak of war.

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