

OBITUARY

JAMES GIBSON

James Gibson, who died in Melbourne late last week, was born at Murrayfield, Scotland, on October 1st, 1886.

Educated at Fiddes College, Edinburgh, he entered the banking profession, following in his father's footsteps.

His desire to emigrate to Australia was achieved about 1908. He obtained a considerable amount of grazing country in the Western district of Victoria.

Sensing a drought, in which his judgement proved correct, more land was leased; after a profitable disposal he proceeded to King Island with Forrest Bros. (who also acquired considerable landed interests on King Island.)

James Gibson first purchased land adjoining Sea Elephant River bridge, on what later became Fraser Road.

He next obtained 500 acres on what is now part of North Pagarah soldier settlement.

His home there for a time, consisted of a shack inside the stump of a huge hollow tree.

He sold this block to Alec Campbell, well known in mining circles in Victoria. Portion of his original settlement was purchased by Ritchie Bros., who, with two sisters continued clearing the rich river flats.

"Jock" Gibson, as he was well and favourably known to his many friends, moved from the timber country to set up home at Pass River, purchasing a considerable area from T. Jaynes, and also Forest Bros.

Dairying now became his chief interest; which property was later sold to McCusker & Geddes.

Geddes.

Further land was acquired in the vicinity of Yellow Rock turn off, portion being later purchased by ex Warden Tom Wilshire.

Meanwhile Jock's health had deteriorated, he proceeded to Melbourne where he spent the remaining years of his life.

Jock, with his cheery jovial disposition was a welcome visitor to the many homes on the Island.

He entered into Civic life. A member of the Municipal Council, talented violinist in the Currie Orchestra, committee-man for several years with the King Island branch of the R.S.L.; were some of his many interests.

During 1910, a lasting friendship sprang up between himself and Dick Hooper. These two enlisted together, first world war, served for a period in the 6th Bn. A.I.F., returning together after 4 years active service.

Each brought back a 2½ Douglas motor cycle; motor bikes at that time on King Island being practically unknown, it took some time before horses (and riders) became fully acquainted.

Jock never married; he was best man at his friend Dick's wedding to Miss E. M. Bischof.

Miss Lightfoot, now residing at Naracoopa assisted as bridesmaid.

His passing will be mourned by his many friends on King Island and elsewhere.