

PERSONAL.

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Talbot, who have been residents of Mackay for 48 years past, intend leaving by the s.s. *Bingera* on Tuesday for Sydney, where they will in future reside.

Mr. T. J. Leonard has received an important commission at Rockhampton to act as salesman for Messrs. R. F. Duncan and Co. at their big horse sale, to commence on 13th. instant, when 2000 head of horses will be offered. Mr. Leonard leaves by the *Bingera* to-day.

Advice by cablegram was received in town yesterday to the effect that Private James McAdam was admitted to the Cambridge Hospital, Aldershot, England, on August 30, suffering from a gun-shot wound in the back.

Mr. H. McNeill, who volunteered from the Mackay railway service about 18 months ago, and, after seeing a considerable period of active service, received his discharge as the result of shell shock inflicted on 2nd April, returned to Mackay on Sunday. Mr. McNeill is returning to his old position in the railway shortly, and in the meantime is arranging for Mrs. McNeill and family to come to Mackay.

Last evening the members of the Presbyterian Church choir met to farewell Mr. Hugh Rae, who is leaving with Mrs. Rae for the south by the *Bingera*. The choir master, Mr. Mincher, in a happy speech, referred in a glowing manner to the faithful service rendered to the choir by Mr. Rae. Mr. Mincher, on behalf of the club, presented Mr. Rae with a safety razor. Mr. Rae appropriately replied: A happy time

appropriately replied: A happy time was spent in music and songs. Dainty refreshments were served.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Venton, of South Hill Farm, West Plains Creek, have received the sad news of the death of their son, Private George J. Venton. He enlisted and went to Enoggera on December 15, 1915, and after being in training there for about six months he left for England with the 41st. Battalion. He was at Lark Hill camp, Salisbury, and about November, 1916, went across to France. On August 14, 1917, he was admitted into the 7th. Canadian General Hospital, suffering from gunshot wounds in his back and right thigh, and died on 31st. August. He was a native of Mackay, and was 21 years and 6 months old. Sympathy is extended to the parents of the gallant young soldier.

Lieut. H. E. Joseph, in a letter to his brother, Mr. Bertie Joseph, makes the following reference to Lieut. R. Smith, who was recently awarded the Military Cross: Lieut. Reg Smith, son of Mr. Alf. Smith, of Sydney Street, who is with one of the Pioneer companies of the Australian Imperial Forces, has been awarded the military cross for "leading his men with courage and determination through a heavy artillery barrage, and maintaining a supply of ammunition in the front captured lines." On a later occasion he again did work in constructing a strong post under heavy fire, "when his coolness set a fine example to his men." Lieut. Joseph also states that he saw Private Joe Elliott, of the Leap, who was in a wheel chair in one of the corridors of the hospital. "Joe" has his leg off. Referring to himself, in a letter to his parents, the writer states that his wounds (he was severely wounded by shrapnel) have all healed, but they had left him "with a bit of a limp."