

NO LIVING ALLOWANCE FOR NEW SOLDIER SETTLERS

Federal Government Refuses Aid

Ex-Service men who get farms on the 29,000 acre property Cunninyeuk, in the Wakool area, will not get the living allowances usually paid, as a rehabilitation measure, by the Commonwealth, to soldier settlers.

The State Government will provide the usual finance for stock, plant, development and improvement on the farms, but the settlers will have to find the money to cover their living expenses for their first year.

Because of disagreement with the Commonwealth, he said the State Government had decided to go ahead on its own to avoid further delays, and this meant that living allowances would not be paid by the Commonwealth. The settlers would have to find their own living expenses for the first year.

The announcement that the State had been made available for soldier settlement in 10 farms for fat lambs and wool under irrigation was made by the Acting Minister for Lands (Mr. Hawkins).

Farm areas range from 2560 acres to 3550 acres, with 200 acres of irrigation on each farm. Cunninyeuk, in the Wakool irrigation district, 20 miles from Moulamein is only 100 miles from Melbourne markets.

Mr. Hawkins said the living allowance paid soldier settlers by the Commonwealth ranges from £4/10/- a week for a single man to £6/10/- a week for a man with two or more dependants, and lasted for the first 12 months on their blocks.

Applications for entry to the Cunninyeuk ballot should reach the Crown Land Agent, Barranald, between February 25 and March 28, 1952.

Mr. Hawkins said ex-Service men applying would have to satisfy the Special Land Board that they had satisfactory irrigation experience.

Application forms and full details of the blocks could be had from any Crown Land Agent or District Surveyor or the Under-Secretary for Lands, Sydney, Mr. Hawkins said.