

Doctor Book, retired superintendent of Nelson Hospital, & the house is almost certainly 31 Albert St., date early 1900s.

The Millie Arnold Book in the note overleaf was the Doctor's daughter, & I have been told (by Mollie Burns) that she bought 31 for herself & her widowed father when he retired. Bosses, Gilkissins & Humphreys were all related.



FREDERICK GILES GIBBS



Family
1866 31 October: Frederick (Fred) Giles Gibbs is born in London to James and Mary Gibbs (nee Waive). 1877 Fred arrives in Nelson with his widowed mother and siblings. Fred attends Bishop's School and Nelson College.

1914
3 August: Fred is on a motorcycle road tour when he is told in Dovedale that Germany has declared war against Russia. 6 August: Fred records that Britain and hence, NZ, is at war with Germany. 16 August: Fred notes the increased war-related activities in the city, saying "War excitement at fever heat," but doesn't think the war will last very long.

1915
24 January: Fred answers letters in the Colonist newspaper directed against Herr Julius Lemmer, the German born principal of the Nelson School of Music. It is the start of a virulent campaign against Lemmer whom Gibbs supports throughout the war. 7 February: "No important war news, except engagement on Suez Canal in which two Nelson men wounded & Germany's declaration of submarine blockade of Britain". This is the week William Ham dies of wounds received in the Suez battle, becoming the first New Zealand active casualty of the war. 8 August: Fred writes about the success of a Gala Day for Sick and Wounded Fund which starts with a procession, followed by displays, races, "gambling shows & produce stalls [which] did a roaring business".



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