

# **FARMING – BOWER & PARK FARMS, EYNSFORD**

Self-sufficiency in the production of food became more vital as war dragged on and German submarines took their toll on allied shipping.

Kent's War Agricultural Committee operated from 1914-1919.

All farms were inspected and less efficient farms and derelict sites were taken over and ran by managers appointed by the county.

Bower and Park Farms, covering 509 acres in Eynsford were taken from Sir William Hart Dyke of Lullingstone.

Manager, W. Millar, was put in charge.

1919 - Bower & Park Farms became a Centre to train ex-servicemen.

The aim: To make up for labour shortage on farms, or for men to farm publicly owned small holdings.

Men lived in Army huts.

Men were given 30 shillings (40s for disabled) a week, from which 17/6d was deducted for board and lodging.

42 able men were trainees, with a principal and 2 instructors.

After 2 months the Centre took in disabled ex-servicemen only.

Training was for one year.

The last intake was in March 1921.

# FARMING - DIS-ABLED EX-SERVICE MEN TRAINING CENTRE, EYNSFORD

## Training of Disabled

### Agricultural Training

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Ministry of Agriculture—						
Grants in Aid ...	9300	0	0			
Deductions from Allowances to Trainees in respect of board and lodgings ...	841	4	8			

£10141 4 8

### Other

£	s.	d.
Ministry of Agriculture—		
Grants in Aid ...	5000	0 0
Contributions from Trainers in respect of labour of Trainees ...	63	10 0

£5063 10 0

## Ex-Service Men.

### Centre, Eynsford.

### PAYMENTS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Allowances to Trainees ...						
Rations for Staff and Trainees ...	5597	6	5			
Salaries and Remuneration to Principal and Training Staff ...	1735	19	3			
Wages of Staff at Centre ...	889	8	9			
Travelling Expenses of Officers ...	278	12	2			
Erection of Huts for accommodation of Trainees and Staff—						
Contract—Wallis & Sons, Maidstone ...	1070	10	9			
„ A. Knowles, Farningham ...	1261	13	4			
General Stores for equipment of Centre ...	2332	4	1			
Recreation and Sports Equipment for Trainees ...	39	5	3			
Instruction in Bee keeping—	80	1	9			
Food Stuff and General Equipment ...	84	1	8			
Repairs, Petrol and maintenance of Ford Van allotted for use of Principal ...	218	18	8			
Coal, Oil and Wood Fuel ...	67	10	1			
Repairs to Buildings and Huts ...	17	8	8			
Tools and Implements ...	49	9	10			
Horse Hire ...	5	10	0			
Carriage ...	12	15	3			
Medical Fees for attendance on Trainees ...	47	5	0			
Cleaning Materials ...	11	18	4			
Laundry ...	16	5	5½			
Advertising and Stationery ...	18	8	4			
Postages and Telephones ...	6	12	0			
Architects Fees for preparing plans and specifications of extension of Huts Scheme (on account) ...	10	10	0			
Miscellaneous ...	27	18	5½			
	£11592	2	3			

### Establishments.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Allowances and Travelling Expenses of Trainees ...	3862	13	4			
Training Fees ...	261	10	2			
Purchase of Tools for Trainees on completion of course ...	3	14	7			
	4127	18	1			
	£4127	18	1			

1919 Accounts of Training Centre for disabled ex-servicemen, Bower & Park Farms

## FARMING - DIS-ABLED EX-SERVICE MEN TRAINING CENTRE, EYNSFORD



Bower Farmhouse, Bower Lane, March 2005, one of the farms used for training disabled ex-servicemen at the end of the First World War



## FARMING - DIS-ABLED EX-SERVICE MEN TRAINING CENTRE, EYNSFORD



Park House and outbuildings of Park Farm, Bower Lane, Eynsford c.1914, one of the farms used for training disabled ex-servicemen at the end of the First World War

# FARMING - DIS-ABLED EX-SERVICE MEN TRAINING CENTRE, EYNSFORD

## BOWER AND PARK HOUSE FARMS, EYNSFORD.

Acreage, 509 acres.

Supervisor—Mr. W. MILLAR.

### Profit and Loss Account as at Michaelmas, 1918.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Manual Labour .....	217	16	8			
Team Labour .....	51	12	0			
Steam Ploughing & Cultivating .....	313	15	9			
Coal .....	80	13	9			
Seeds ... ..	35	8	4			
Manure .....	223	2	0			
Fodder.....	79	0	8			
Tools .....	88	17	2			
Carriage .....	5	19	6			
Hire of Implements	30	2	6			
Repairs .. ....	2	11	9			
Miscellaneous .....	6	0	6			
Salary of Supervisor	105	6	3			
				1240	6	10
Gross Profit at Michaelmas, 1918	211	14	9			
	£1452	1	7			

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
RECEIPTS--						
Sir William Hart- Dyke. Contri- bution towards repairs .....				250	0	0
VALUATION at Michaelmas, 1918—						
Tools and Imple- ments .....	100	11	7			
Hay, Roots, &c....	817	0	0			
Materials in stock	284	10	0			
				1202	1	7
	£1452	1	7			

The sum of £250 received from Sir William Hart Dyke will be expended this year in the repairs to stable buildings, and is therefore included temporarily in the farm account. Excluding this contribution the account would show a deficit of £48 5s. 3d.

Profit of £211+ made in 1918 from Kent War Agricultural Committee's management of Bower and Park Farms, Bower Lane, Eynsford