

TRYING ORDEAL.

MUSTERER'S TERRIBLE EXPERIENCE.

BROKEN LEG ON MT. POTTS.

Unable to move or assist himself owing to his left leg being broken above the knee, Leslie Timpson, aged 32 years, a shepherd, was forced to lie on the slopes of Mt. Potts, near the source of the Rangitata river from shortly after 9 o'clock on Tuesday morning, throughout the severe cold of Tuesday night, until 1.30 p.m. on Wednesday, a total of 27½ hours, before assistance arrived, his only comfort being a pack of faithful dogs, who lay close to him all night, keeping him warm.

Timpson was mustering on some of the back slopes of the Mt. Potts Station, and as he was crossing a large sliding shingle face about the snow-line, the mass of shingle gave way under his weight, and he was carried down a distance of over 50ft, striking a large boulder half-way, and travelling the remainder of the distance head foremost. During his descent his leg was broken, and he was unable to move. It was some time before the unfortunate man was missed, and it was not until 1.30 p.m. on Wednesday that he was discovered by the search party. Then commenced the difficult task of conveying him over extremely rough country on an improvised stretcher made from coats and musterers' staffs. It took ten hours to cover thirteen miles.

Timpson was conveyed from the homestead over the Potts river to the south side in a dray, where Dr. G. J. S. Fisher, of Ashburton, attended to his injuries, and the journey was commenced to Ashburton by car, the County Hospital being reached at 6.30 yesterday morning. From the time the accident occurred it was only three hours short of two days before Timpson reached the hospital.

Enquiries made at the hospital last evening elicited the information that his condition was fairly good after his trying experience.