

Timaru Herald. 2 January 1917 (Papers Past) [23/11/2014]

A Red Cross social and presentation in aid of the Waimate Queen was held last Thursday evening in the Pareora Hall. A large attendance was presided over by Mr E. Longman. During the evening Mr Jas. Craigie presented each of six soldiers, namely, Lance-Corporal C. Hanson, Privates A. Hanson, W. Knowles, S. Shuker, G. Makeig and H. Henderson, who were down on final leave, with a wristlet watch and a parcel of clothing (made up by the school children). The material was supplied by the Pareora Ladies' War Guild and the watches were purchased by public subscription. Mr Craigie made a short speech and expressed the wish that the recipients would soon be back again. Cheers were heartily given for the boys at the front. The evening was spent mostly in dancing, with a few songs, etc., between dances. The ladies provided supper.

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BACK FROM THE WAR.

A WET-DAY WELCOME
TRAIN BEHIND TIME

A special train conveying returned soldiers for South Canterbury, Otago, and Southland reached Timaru about 5 p.m. yesterday. On Monday evening it was announced that the train would reach here at 3.5 p.m., and various arrangements were made for meeting the detraining men with cars and providing tea for those going further. In spite of a steady rain a considerable number of people went to the station at the appointed time, to learn that the train would be half an hour late. Then other intimations of delays succeeded one another, and it was nearly 5 o'clock before the train came in. The platform was fairly full of waiting friends and others, suggesting that there would have been a crush had the weather been fine. On Station Street was a fine array of cars, the owners of many of which had a tedious "wait" in the dismal weather. The executive of the Reception Committee had everything well arranged for the conveyance of the men, yet a considerable time was required to get them all away. The soldiers going further were supplied with fruit, a supply of warm tea being made impracticable by the lone wait.

The Mayor, Mr Maling, addressing the men, said that they were pleased to be able to welcome them home. They were pleased to welcome not only the Timaru men, but all those who had detrained here but belonged to various parts of South Canterbury. He was sorry the weather was so wet, but that would no doubt not affect the men one little bit. He concluded by calling for three hearty cheers for the soldiers, and these were given lustily.

The following are the names of those who arrived, as checked by the Reception Committee: — Captain J G. Stewart, Lieutenant W. A. Stead, Lieutenant Green, Nurse Howell.

E. W. Arscott, D. J. Bergin, B. L. Dawson, A. L. Dunnill, W. G. Granger, R. S. Hall, B. H. Howell, S E. Johns, N. J. Meehan, J. E. Ryder, P. St. John, N. Smith, J. Wood, - Hill, - Collins. The foregoing belong to Timaru. There were also — G. A. Makeig (of Pareora) and J. R. Wall (of Sutherlands).

The Fairlie train was delayed till after 5 o'clock to pick up one or more soldiers for that line.