

**22nd REINFORCEMENTS
LEFT FOR CAMP TO-DAY.
DUNEDIN 122 SHORT.
DISTRICT SHORTAGE, ABOUT 225.
A FINE LOT OF MEN.**

PERHAPS SOMEWHAT OLDER THAN PREVIOUS DRAFTS.

The send-off to-day to the 22nd Reinforcements was on the same plan as the send-off to the first and every other draft from Otago — the assembly at the Drill Hall, the march through the streets, the cheering crowd at the railway station, the pointed speeches, the entrainment. It is a good plan and a suitable one, enabling the people at large to get into touch at the last moment with the departing soldiers. One thing is very certain: that these send-offs can never become formal. As their number mounts up we observe a more intense note in the attitude of the crowd. The cause lies on the surface. At the earlier functions the people's interest was mainly of a national character, now they are nearly all personally interested. The position is approaching that of Egypt at the time of the judgment by the smiting of the first-born: "There was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a house where there was not one dead." To-day there is hardly a large family in New Zealand that is not anxious about a son or a nephew or a husband or a cousin wounded, and many are silently mourning over their dead. The war is now "our" war. We are feeling it. Hence the deep concern underlying the attitude of the multitude that cheered at the railway station to-day.

In the ranks a new characteristic also appeared — namely, the larger proportion of older men. Quite a lot of them were wearing moustaches, and, taken all round, they were perhaps a bit heavier than the men of previous reinforcements. Just as fit for service as any of the earlier drafts, but of greater age. So it appeared. We are sending more men and fewer lads.

Be it noted, further, that the men who left to-day are soldiers in the full sense, of the term. They were all sworn in at the time of enlisting, or as soon as passed fit. That was not so with the previous reinforcements. The majority of the men who went forward to-day were signed on for what is now known as general service, formerly a recruit enlisted in the branch of the service in which he wished to serve. Now he enlists for general service, but is permitted to express a preference for a particular branch. It depends upon the numbers required for each arm of the service at Trentham whether he will serve in the branch for which he has expressed a preference. In view of the fact that Headquarters have decided that they have more artillery and Army Service men than are required, it is practically certain that all the general service men will be posted to the infantry.

One pleasing feature of to-day's parade was that there were only three defaulters at Dunedin. Generally the authorities are faced with about 15. The recruit who fails to turn up now is, of course, a deserter, and the three men who did not answer to their names this morning will probably hear from the police very promptly.

As was anticipated, the shortage for the 22nd is a big one. A particularly heavy quota was asked for to make up previous shortages. Approximately the deficiency for the district may be put down as 225, made up as follows: — Southland 58, Clutha 6, Dunedin 122, North Otago 39. The men from Oamaru would not muster until the afternoon, so that the figures stated represent only the anticipated shortage.

—At Kensington Hall.—

The Dunedin group mustered a little later than usual, so as to enable the men who had to come from Waikouaiti, Taieri, and Peninsula (these districts now belong in the Dunedin group) to be present. Major Moller was in command, and Lieutenant-colonel Stoneham was present.

Short speeches were delivered by Colonel Smith and Mrs Macfie (representing the Women's Association).

Mrs Macfie, in the course of her address, said: "All that has been thought of has been carried out by experts in every branch of camp life to ensure your comfort and your physical welfare. Scientific means have been brought into play to keep you well and immune from all sorts of ailments, and for those who may through some special cause fall a victim, there is a hospital, which is planned and carried out under the very latest approved medical ideas. You will see for yourselves, lads, what has been devised and installed for your benefit, and we trust you will appreciate it and accommodate yourselves to the routine, which, if at the first proves somewhat irksome, is necessary for the discipline which moulds the man into a soldier. You can greatly help the authorities by doing your utmost to keep fit and free from trouble; and towards that end we hope you will not abuse the leave given you from time to time. Ever be on your guard to avoid nets cunningly woven for the unwary soldier, which would surely ensnare and destroy you. In your coming busy time, wherever you are, grasp every opportunity of writing your good mothers. 'Tis they who have made the sacrifice. It is your letters only and the thought at a distant date of your home coming that bring comfort to them. Meantime, they with all other women in their own useful way are helping to keep "the home fires burning." On behalf of the women of the Otago Recruiting Committee I offer you our earnest and heart-felt good wishes for your personal welfare, success in your achievements, and a safe return to your loved ones."

—The Southlanders.—

The Southland contingent came by train, Sergeant-major J. J. Cassidy being in charge. As soon as they reached the station Captain Dobson marched them to the Early Settlers' Hall, where the Women's Association provided a good breakfast, and gave facilities for relatives to sit with the men.

—At Anzac Square.—

The St. Kilda Band, conducted by Mr G. Patterson, played the Dunedin group into town by way of Princes street, and, the Southlanders having reached the square by 11.30, Major Moller intimated to the Mayor (Mr J. J. Clark) that all was ready.

The military were represented by Colonel J. Cowie Nicholls (officer commanding the district), Major A. C. Cooper (general staff officer), and Captain Fraser, A.Q.M.G.

The National Anthem having been sung.

The Mayor gave an address, of which the following is an outline: — The call that rang out two years ago is still ringing through New Zealand. It is a call for men to go and stand shoulder to shoulder with the manhood of the Empire and our Allies in the struggle to crush the devilish Prussian militarism, to uphold our honor, to preserve our homes, and to maintain those ideals of liberty and justice which are our common and sacred cause. To-day we bid God-speed to another band of courageous, strong-hearted sons of New Zealand, who go to match the glory of their comrades. We are confident that they will exhibit the same spirit of calm unconscious heroism, inflexible resolution as the men of Anzac. We realise the great sacrifice they are making for us, and we give them our grateful thanks and admiration. They leave their homes, their means of livelihood, and their loved ones, bravely careless of the future. What are you men going to fight for? For self-glorification? For selfish gains? For the acquisition of territory? No. You are going to fight for humanity, and for the right of civilisation, to exist — that the code of the gentleman, not the customs of barbarians, shall be the rule. We are fighting a nation which does not believe in international morality, but believes that the end justifies the means, as long as they are Germany's ends. "Leave them," says a Prussian prince of a conquered people,

"leave them nothing but their eyes to weep with." It is a hellish creed, and they have brutally carried it out. The Germans have taught the world that a people may be civilised in the ordinary sense of the word, and yet be at heart barbarians. This is the foe that you men are going to fight

and going to crush. Men of the 22nd, in the name of the citizens I bid you God-speed. We leave our honor in your hands, knowing full well that you will “play the game.” Difficulties, trials, and dangers lie before you. Face them with strong hearts, and show that you are worthy of the confidence that the people of the land have in you. Remember that you go as free men — as heroes who have of your own will voluntarily offered yourself to the noble cause. In days to come your proud boast will be: “We were volunteers.”

Major Colvin, of the Salvation Army, was the only other speaker. In the course of his remarks he said: When my boy, who left last week to do his little bit, was about to go he said to me: “Dad, don’t you regret you’re a fairly old man, and can’t go with us?” I said “Amen” to that question. To-day I have not much to say. My boy told me when he was going away not to prolong the agony, and you will mean, even if you do not say, something the same. So I will be short. But it is only right I should say this: that every one of us feels, and feels too deeply for words to express, admiration for what you and the rest of the men from the Dominion are doing in offering yourselves voluntarily for service and for sacrifice. I assure you that numbers of us wish we had your vigorous manhood, so that we could go and stand alongside of you in the fighting and do our bit for righteousness and for home. I wish you God-speed. You will be exposed to dangers in circumstances such as the world never witnessed before, but there is a Providence which hedges us about, and we know that God has in His plan a life scheme for every one of us. We commend you to that Providence, and pray that God will protect and care for and guard you. May the Lord be with you in all your doings, and bring you safely back to your homes and loved ones.

Major Colvin commended the men to God in a short prayer, and amidst the cheering of the crowd and the playing of the band the men marched on to the platform and swiftly entrained.

ROLL CALL.

The following are the names of the men who went forward from Dunedin to-day:

AMBULANCE.

.....

MOUNTED RIFLES.

.....

GENERAL SERVICE.

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Webb, Seddon David Waddell.

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N.C.O.s.

—Ambulance.—

.....

—Mounted Rifles.—

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—Infantry (25th Reinforcements).—

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Lieutenant M’Crorie, with Sergeant-major Pryde, went up in charge of the men, Lieutenant O’Sullivan, N.Z.M.C., accompanying the troops as medical officer.

HOME AGAIN.
WELCOME TO RETURNED SOLDIERS.
AT TEMUKA.

On Tuesday last thirteen more of our soldier boys returned to Temuka from the war. Sixteen were expected but three were unable to come. The weather was very wet, rain pouring down the whole of the day, but this did not prevent a large turn-out of the public to welcome the boys home. Flags were flown from stalls and business places in the town and at the railway station. The men and their relatives came by special train, and it was unfortunate that the train was unable to run to timetable time. It was at first expected at Temuka at a quarter to three o'clock, but it was half-past four o'clock, before it arrived at the station. There was a very large gathering at the railway station, and as the train — a long one — steamed in, the Temuka Juvenile Brass Band, under Mr. Burtenshaw, struck up a welcoming air. The Temuka Entertainment Committee had made very complete arrangements for the occasion. Several cases of fruit had been made up into parcels, and a number of ladies and gentlemen distributed these among the soldiers and their friends who were going further south. Mr Gunnion, chairman of the Temuka P.E.C, called for cheers for the men who had been fighting valiantly for their King and country, and these were given with zest, those on the train acknowledging them with cheers.

The local men were warmly welcomed by their relatives and friends, and by Messrs Gunnion, Street, and Rev. A. H. Norris, on behalf of the Entertainment Committee, and they were then escorted to the motor cars in waiting to receive them.

Speaking from the platform, Mr Gunnion said on account of the rain it had been decided that the welcome should take place at the railway station instead of at the post office. He assured the returned soldiers that all were very glad to see them back. They thanked them for what they had done for them. They had been far away fighting for those who remained at home, and braving the perils and trials of this terrible war. Temuka honoured them, and hoped they would soon all be well again and be long spared to live happily with their friends. He hoped that the State would do its duty by them and see that they were well cared for if they needed it. (Applause).

At the call of Mr Gunnion, hearty cheers were given for the returned soldiers, who were then driven to the post office by way of Railway Terrace and Wood and King Streets, the Band preceding them.

It was unfortunate that a change was made in the usual procedure, for a still larger crowd had assembled at the post office anticipating the usual addresses there. However, the heartiness of the welcome was apparent to all.

Speaking from the post office steps the Mayor (Mr A. Frew) said it would take a long speech to express the feelings of those assembled to welcome the returned soldiers. They were all very glad to have the men back. They had been doing their duty for their country, and it was for the State to see that men who had fought and suffered in the war should be well provided for in the future. (Applause).

The men were then driven to their homes.

Those who returned were —

Sergeant-Major L. Heap

Private L. Boulter

Private G. Curry

Private H. T. Hobbs

Private D. G. Henry

Private S. D. King

Private C. G. McGillen
Private C. Mackenzie
Private J. P. O'Connell
Private P. J. Wallace
Private S. D. Webb
Private C Moran
Corporal Kay.

Those who kindly provided cars were: — W. Ilally (2), C. Bates, P. Wareing, T. Sheen, R. Brookland, A. Martin, Geo. Ward, M. H. McLeod, T. Tarbotton, - Wedlake, T. Frisby, J. Gaffaney, W. Moore, John Brown (Riverslea), J. J. Ellis, P. A. Acheson, W. Fitzgerald, R. Thistleton, G. Watt, A. Shaw, R. Maddren, A. C. Buist, and Geo. Cartwright.

Very acceptable gifts of fruit for the soldiers passing through in the train were received from Mrs R. Brookland, Mrs Hayhurst, and Mr Philp (Winchester).

YESTERDAY'S WELCOME.

Yesterday three more men arrived at Temuka and were met and welcomed by the Mayor and Mr Gunniom. Their names were —

Private D. T. Elder
Private B. B. Brosnahan
Private C. Wareing

Mr Bates, Mr Tarbotton, and Mr Wareing provided cars to convey the soldiers to their homes.

WELCOME AT GERALDINE.

A large number of residents of Geraldine and district assembled on Tuesday afternoon to welcome home the returned soldiers who were expected to arrive. The Mayor (Dr Patersoru), together with members of the motor reserve met the train (which was two hours late) at Orari, and Mr Morrison drove Mr T. Bennett to his home. Mr W. Pye, of Raineliff, was the only other soldier to arrive, but as the rain was pouring down it was thought advisable to postpone any official welcome to a more favourable opportunity.

Temuka Leader. 23 February 1926 (PP) [16/05/2023]

While returning from Oamaru about seven o'clock on Thursday evening, Mr W. Englefield, of Waimate, came across a young man lying face downwards on the main south road near Morven, quite unconscious. He was riding a motor cycle which had skidded in some loose shingle, and, being unable to regain control of the machine, had fallen rather heavily on his face, which was badly cut about. Fortunately one of the occupants of Mr Englefield's car had some knowledge of dressing such injuries, and the unconscious man had his wounds attended to before being taken to the Waimate Hospital. The injured man's name is Seddon Webb, and he belongs to Temuka. Yesterday it was learnt that he was making satisfactory progress.

Waimate Daily Advertiser. 6 March 1926 (PP) [16/05/2023]

Mr Seddon Webb, the young man who was picked up on the road from Oamaru to Temuka, in an unconscious condition, on the occasion of the Temuka school picnic to Oamaru, and conveyed to Waimate hospital on February 18 has so far recovered from his injuries as to be able to return to his home in Temuka.

Press. 6 October 1938 (PP) [09/04/2023]

OBITUARY

MRS HELEN JANE WEBB

The funeral took place yesterday at Temuka of one of South Canterbury's oldest identities, Mrs Helen Jane Webb, who died at her home at Princes street, Temuka, on Monday, at the age of 78. Mrs Webb's parents, Mr and Mrs Waddel, were engaged in farming at Selwyn, and Mrs Webb, could remember the great flood of 1868 when both South Canterbury and Mid-Canterbury were inundated.

At the age of eight Mrs Webb saw stock being carried out to sea by the flood waters of the Waimakariri. It was after the flood that the family went to live at Milford. Mrs Webb was a regular exhibitor at the Temuka Horticultural Show about 30 years ago. She was the oldest pupil at the Milford School and cut the cake at the jubilee celebrations some years ago.

Mrs Webb is survived by her husband, Mr Andrew Webb, and seven adult sons and daughters. Five of her sons served in the Great War, one being killed in action. Her three daughters are Mesdames Hawke (Lowcliffe) Tregonning (Christchurch), and McNab (Matamata). There are 40 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

Timaru Herald. 17 January 1939 (PP) [09/04/2023]

OBITUARY

MR ANDREW WEBB

The death occurred at the Timaru Hospital on Saturday night of Mr Andrew Webb, one of the oldest settlers in the Temuka district. Mr Webb came to New Zealand in the sailing ship, St. Lawrence, landing in a surf boat at Timaru. He was a native of County Wicklow, Ireland, and after his arrival he gained recognition as an expert blade shearer, his services being much in demand. In 1879 he married Miss Helen Waddel at Temuka. For 17 years he was a member of the Temuka Volunteer Rifle Company, which was at that time under the command of Major Young, of Winchester. At one time in the early days of Temuka Mr Webb was employed on the Green Hayes estate and later occupied the position of head gardener to Mr James Guild at "Trevenna," a position which he held for some years. His wife died three months ago. He leaves five sons and three daughters.