

Waimate Daily Advertiser. 11 November 1914 (Papers Past) [01/07/2023]

A STUDHOLME JUNCTION SEND-OFF.

(Contributed)

On Saturday evening a large number of Mr Owen Connolly's friends and neighbours assembled in the dining-room of the Studholme Junction Hotel to say farewell to him and Mr and Mrs John Quinn, who are leaving Studholme.

Mr Milner occupied the chair, and carried out his duties in his usual masterly manner. Proceedings commenced with the toast of "The King," followed by the National Anthem, which was sung in a very hearty manner. The toast of "The Guests" was entrusted to Mr H. Shrimpton, who referred in complimentary terms to the many kindnesses extended by the guests to their neighbours, especially by Mrs Quinn, in time of sickness.

Mr John Murray then, on behalf of those present and a great many who were unavoidably absent, presented Mr Connolly with a complete shaving outfit; Mr Quinn with a pair of military hair brushes; Mrs Quinn with a leather travelling bag and a lady's companion; Miss May Quinn with a leather handbag; Master Jack Quinn with a razor strop; and a useful present to Master Roy Quinn. Mr Murray referred in kindly terms to the many kindnesses he and his wife had received from Mr Connolly during the eight years that they were neighbours.

Messrs Foley, Lindsay, Fox, Chapman and Milner also spoke in appreciation of the guests' good qualities.

Mr Connolly responded in a very feeling manner.

The following toast-list (abbreviated to bring the function within the bounds of the licensing law) was carried out: — Army and Navy, proposed by Mr John Murray, and responded to by Mr J. Fox and ex Sergt.-Major Lindsay and Shrimpton; Residents of Studholme District, Messrs Chapman and Garvey - Messrs J. Fooley and W. Lindsay; New Zealand Railways, Mr P. Hunter — Mr W. Milne, Mr Garvey and Mr Chapman; Agricultural Interests, Messrs Hensen and John Murray — Messrs Foley and Lindsay; The Ladies, the Chairman — Messrs John Fox and W. Northcott.

Songs were contributed by Mrs Quinn, Messrs P. Hunter, J. Colley, and W. Milner, and P. Hunter contributed a bagpipe solo.

The toast of the Chairman brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

Temuka Leader. 19 February 1918 [08/08/2016]

SOLDIERS' LETTERS.

Mrs D. Hopkinson, Temuka, has received two letters from her son, Private James Hopkinson. The first was written in No. 1 Stationary Hospital, France, and is dated 21st Dec. He was expecting to be discharged on the following day, and to be sent to the Base for a while. He expresses his delight at getting news from home, and thanks his mother for a parcel of cigarettes. He also acknowledges receipt of a present of a postal note from the Maori ladies at Arowhenua. He says: "It was very kind of them to send it, and it came in very handy. Please convey to them my sincerest thanks for their kindness in sending it to me." The second letter is written from the N.Z. Base Depot, France, and is dated 30th December, 1917. He had arrived there a week previously, and was in good health. He had had a lovely Christmas, and enjoyed it immensely. "It made me wish," he says, "that Christmas came once a week instead of once a year. The orchestra played a choice selection of music while we were at dinner, so you see that we kept up Christmas in some style. We also had a lovely tea. In the afternoon we were

given cigarettes, chocolates, fruit, cakes, and tea, at the Y.M.C. A. On Boxing Day we had indoor sports in our concert hall. Snow prevented the sports being held in the open. Concerts are held here nearly every night and there are a couple of picture cinemas fairly close by, so we get plenty of amusements. . . . Arty Martin, Joe Dwyer, and **Jack Quinn** are at the Base, and they are doing fine. I believe the boys at the line are getting along fairly well.”

Temuka Leader. 1 February 1919 [02/07/2023]

HOME AGAIN.
WELCOMING RETURNED SOLDIERS.
AT TEMUKA.
THE MORNING'S PROCEEDINGS.

Thursday was a day that will be long remembered in Temuka, for it witnessed the arrival home of two of the largest drafts of soldiers from the front that have yet returned to their kindred and friends in this district. A string of flags was suspended across King Street, and flags were flown on numbers of buildings. There must have been over a thousand people present at the morning welcome. The railway station was thronged with people, from a quarter to 11 o'clock, and it was half-past 11 before the troop train arrived. The Temuka Juvenile Brass Band (which was strengthened with several adult players) was at the south end of the station, and the Pipe Band at the north, and as the troop train steamed in the soldiers got a rousing reception of band music, cheers, and shouts of welcome. Advantage was taken of the stay of the train to distribute a few cases of fruit among the soldiers travelling further. The local soldiers were soon found by their relatives and friends, and as soon as the train had proceeded on its way, they were driven to the post office, preceded by the Bands, where a great crowd gathered to hear the speeches of welcome.

The men who arrived were —

Private G. Allan, Temuka.

Rifleman D. Brown, Ohape.

Private M. F. Brown, Temuka.

Private G. P. Crowe, M.M., Temuka.

Rifleman D. M. King, Orakipaoa.

Corporal John Maze, Ohape.

Private J. H. Prattley, Temuka.

Private Ryan, Temuka.

Private Jas. Wareing, Temuka.

Trooper G. W. Huxford, Milford.

Trooper Ellis, Temuka.

Mr T. Gunnion, chairman of the Temuka Patriotic Entertainment Committee, said this was one of Temuka's greatest days. He remembered the time when they were sending away 29 men at a time, and now they were getting them back. (Applause). Temuka had kept up its end until the "bitter end." Some of those who had now returned went away with the First and Second Reinforcements. "Just fancy some of us being away from our homes for three years! Think what these men have suffered, while we were suffering and lacking nothing." Those who remained at home had had plenty to eat, drink, and wear, and a good bed to sleep in. He had great pleasure on behalf of his committee, in welcoming the boys home. (Applause).

At Mr Gunnion's call hearty cheers were given for the returned men.

The Mayor said Mr Gunnion had delivered a very enthusiastic speech, and he took it from the gathering before him, that the whole of Temuka was glad to see the men back. (Applause).

They had done their duty, and brought back victory, and when they thought of what the New Zealand soldiers had done in assisting in the re-establishment of the rule of freedom and justice he thought it spoke much for the future of the country. (Applause). The war was practically finished, and Germany had been conquered. Britain was again in the ascendant. They had been told that Britain was feeding Austria. This was in accordance with Scripture. "If thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink"; but he hoped that Britain would make the enemy pay. We must now go about our work and produce all we can, so that we shall be able to feed ourselves and our enemies — to our own profit. He hoped that the future of the world would be better than the past. Referring to the Peace Conference, the Mayor said they had the wisest men in the world sitting in conference doing their best to settle the many important matters that had to be settled after the war, and he hoped they would come to wise and just decisions. He had great pleasure on behalf of the citizens, in welcoming the men home. (Applause).

At the call of the Mayor further hearty cheers were given for the returned soldiers.

Corporal John Maze, being called on to speak, said personally he would much rather go "over the top" than make a speech, but on behalf of his comrades and himself he thanked all very heartily for the welcome they had received. (Great applause).

Trooper Ellis also thanked all for the hearty reception given his comrades and himself.

Corporal Shelley, M.M., being called on, said he belonged to Timaru more than Temuka, but he had friends here. He did not know how to thank them for the welcome given to his comrades and himself, but it was fully appreciated. It seemed like old times to be back home again. Since they had been away they had had hard times and they had had good times, and they had made the best of both. He thanked all for their kind reception. (Applause).

The boys then mingled with their friends for a few moments, and were afterwards driven to their homes.

AFTERNOON PROCEEDINGS

In the afternoon there was another large gathering to meet more returned soldiers, who were, for various reasons, prevented from travelling in the troop train. The express train on which they travelled, was about 35 minutes [late], and the two bands were again in attendance, and played at intervals until the train arrived. As the train reached the railway station the Bands played welcoming airs and the people cheered. Heavy rain was falling, and as soon as possible the men were driven to the post office from the steps of which the Mayor and Mr Gunnion addressed the large crowd assembled.

The names of the returning men were: —

Private I. Aspinall, Teniuka.

Sergeant J. Barrett, Temuka.

Gunner J. H. Bennett, Temuka.

Private W. Cairncross, Temuka.

Private W. C. Niles, Temuka.

Private Harold Opie, Taranaki.

Private W. G. Weir, Temuka.

Private McClelland, Rangitata.

Private J. Quinn, M.M., Temuka.

Sergeant J. O'Neill, Temuka.

Second-Lieutenant Bain, Winchester.

Private Cross, Maungati, Timaru.

Private F. Maze, Temuka.

Private C. J. Moore, Temuka.

Private Darby, Temuka.

In the course of his remarks Mr Gunnion (chairman of the Patriotic Committee), thanked the men for what they had done. They had been willing to shed their blood for their country, and

all were very thankful to see them back. Nothing could be too good for them, and he hoped that the Temuka people would see that their services were not forgotten. (Applause).

The Mayor said the sight of the men had brought smiles to the faces of all. They had met to do honour to the men who had proved themselves “neither laggards in love nor dastards in war.” (Laughter and applause). They had brought back victory with them, and some of them had brought back wives too. That was all right. He hoped that the daughters of the Mother Country would find life very pleasant in New Zealand. It was good to see such a large turn-out on such a wet day to honour the men, to whom he extended a hearty welcome. (Applause).

Hearty cheers were given for the returned soldiers.

Private O'Neill said he was one of the old returned boys. On behalf of his comrades and himself, he thanked all for the hearty reception they had given them that day. (Loud applause).

Mr E. O'Neill said son had not only gone to the war once - but twice. (Applause). After he had returned and recovered his health, he enlisted again. He told him that he had done enough, but he replied not until the Huns are put down. Now that had been done, and he thanked God that his son had turned again. (Applause).

Private H., Opie said he was very glad to be back and to be one to receive such a reception. They had “only done their bit,” and nothing more could be said. (Applause).

Sergeant Barrett said they were all glad to be back, and the only thing they were sorry for was that they had left their best men behind. Their home-coming was a joy to some, and a sorrow to others. He thanked them for the warm reception they had received.

Private Weir also expressed his thanks.

Cheers were given for the boys who have yet to come home, and this brought the proceedings to a close.

There was a splendid response to the appeal for motor cars, among those who kindly supplied them being W. Hally (2), R. J. Thistleton, J. Andrews, W. Kellahan, C. H. Street, Sir Rupert Clarke, Geo. Ward, M. McLeod, Miss Guild, Mrs P. Wareing, R. J. McCallum, T. Sheen, J. J. Ellis, Dr Hastings, W. Holwell, Rev. Griffin, T. Quinn, J. Cooper, T. Frisby, P. A. Acheson, L. Story, T. Edwards, Hammond, L. Grant, M. D. Grant (Winchester), R. Maddren (Winchester), W. Palmer (Winchester), S. McCully. There were others at the station, but we were unable to ascertain the names of their owners.

TWO MORE ARRIVALS.

Yesterday Privates Ripplingale (Temuka) and Brien (Kerrytown), who could not come on Thursday, arrived by the express train from Christchurch, and were cordially welcomed by Mr Gunnion, chairman of the Temuka Patriotic Entertainment Committee.

Temuka Leader. 22 February 1919 [28/07/2018]

WELCOME HOME SOCIAL.

AT AROWHENUA.

On Thursday evening a social was held in the Maori Hall, Arowhenua, for the purpose of welcoming and making a presentation to Troopers J. Quinn, M.M., and Private W. Weir, who have recently returned from the front. There was a good attendance, the Hall being well filled. Excellent music was provided by Messrs J. Rickus, Jas. Johnson, and Scrimgeour, and the duties of M.C. were carried out by Messrs Solomon and McAteer, to the satisfaction of all. A capital supper was provided by the committee, and was much enjoyed. Immediately after supper the presentation took place, but unfortunately Private Weir had to leave shortly before the time arrived for it. In presenting Trooper Quinn with a neat gold medal (suitably inscribed) on behalf of his Maori friends, Mr Jas. Johnson referred to the services he had rendered to his

country, and the honour he had conferred on the district he had gone from by winning the Military Medal. His friends were very proud of him, and hoped he would live long to wear his decoration and enjoy the happiness he was entitled to. Mr Johnson emphasised the fact that the medals presented that evening were presented by the Maori friends of the soldiers, who wished to show their gratitude for the services they had rendered to the Maoris as well as Europeans. Their action was deserving of all credit. He greatly regretted that Private Weir Was unable to stay, but his absence was unavoidable, and under the circumstances his medal was given to Mr Solomon to present him on the following day, with the best wishes of his Maori friends. The presentation was followed by the singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow," after which Trooper Quinn replied, thanking his Maori friends for the kindness they had shown to him that evening by giving him such a hearty welcome and such a nice present, for which he was very grateful. Dancing was then resumed and kept up until after 1 a.m., the function being brought to a close with the National Anthem.

Temuka Leader. 19 July 1919 [02/07/2023]

MILITARY DECORATIONS.

IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY, IN TIMARU.

An impressive ceremony took place in the Drill Hall, Timaru, on Thursday evening, before a large gathering of Territorials, Senior Cadets, and the general public, when Sir James Allen, Acting Prime Minister, and Minister for Defence, presented twelve decorations for bravery on the field of action, and seven long-service medals. Sir James was accompanied by Colonel Chaffey, V.D., officer commanding the District, Major Finnis, General Staff Officer, and Major C. Leeming, M.C.

In a splendid speech Sir James Allen said it was both his duty and his pleasure to present the rewards for bravery, which he hoped would be the means of conveying to future generations the finest example which could be set — that of self-sacrifice. His Majesty the King desired that all such rewards should be presented as publicly as possible, and so they had the ceremony of that night. He desired to welcome back the men who had won distinctions on the field, and to congratulate them on their fine achievements, their bravery, and their devotion to duty. By their courage and heroism they had assisted to win liberty and freedom for the world, and they were honoured for it. He would not say that the men who were to receive these decorations were the only ones who deserved them. Even the recipients would not say that. It was well known that many heroic deeds were done on the battlefield which did not come under the notice of the authorities, and many a man who received no medal deserved one. But that did not alter the fact that the men on parade that night who were to receive decorations, and their comrades who had given their lives, had earned the distinctions for exceptional bravery, courage, and devotion to duty. He congratulated them and their relatives, and hoped they would treasure them and hand them on to those who came after them. To the latter they would convey a valuable lesson in self-sacrifice and duty nobly done, and would tell the children that their fathers were no shirkers. He expressed his deep sympathy with the parents and relatives of those who would never return, and said that no one could calculate the extent of the loss to the Dominion entailed by the death of these bright young fellows. Their only consolation lay in the knowledge that they had played their part so nobly. Their relatives were deserving of the sympathy of the whole community, and they had it. To the wounded, Sir James expressed the fervent hope that they would soon recover; and to those who had returned well he expressed the hope that they would soon settle down in civilian life again.

THE DECORATIONS.

Sir James then presented the decorations, the first five-named being received by relatives as the soldiers had been killed in action. The names are as follows: -

Trooper R. Maxwell, Beautiful Valley, Geraldine, D.C.M. (received by his Mother).

Private A. J. Hammond, Fairview, D.C.M. (Father).

Private L. G. Hopkins, Timaru, M.M. (Mother).

Private Donald Cray, Timaru, M.M. (Miss Cray).

Sergeant W. B. Bowles, Waimate, M.M. (Father).

Sergeant Roy Hawke, Geraldine, M.M.

Lance-Corporal C. M. McDougall, Timaru, M.M.

Sergeant G. L. Marshall, Kingsdown, M.M.

Corporal J. W. Tennent, Timaru, M.M.

Private E. Tavendale, Waihao Forks, M.M. [D. Tavendale]

Rifleman J. M. Quinn, Temuka, M.M.

The following long-service medals were also presented: —

S.S.M., L. H. Tozer, 12 years.

Sergeant W. J. Husband, 12 years.

Band-Sergeant A. Riley, 12 years.

Sergeant M. K. Mara, 21 years.

Corporal H. J. Clark, 12 years.

Bandsman C. E. Smith, 12 years.

Company Sergt.-Major Page, D.C.M., M.M., 12 years.

Sir James pinned each man's medal on to his breast, and offered him congratulations. The recipients were heartily applauded.