

Timaru Herald. 18 October 1915 (Papers Past) [14/10/2023]

A motoring accident of a peculiar kind, and one which was unfortunately attended with serious results, happened at Sutherlands on Friday night, the victim being Mr Jack Rutherford, of Rangitata, second son of Mr J. S. Rutherford, of Opawa, Albury. The motorist was on his way home, riding a motor bicycle, and when at Sutherlands, his dust coat by some means became entangled in the wheel of the motor, and the machine, skidding right across the road, capsized heavily. Mr Rutherford was picked up in an unconscious state and conveyed to the Pleasant Point private hospital, where his injuries were attended to by Dr Paterson. His coat had to be all cut away before he could be extricated from the motor. He is suffering from severe concussion of the brain.

Timaru Herald. 23 December 1915 (Papers Past) [20/03/2015]

WELCOME HOME.
TO MR AND MRS JOHN RUTHERFORD.
BIG GATHERING AT OPAWA.

There was a big gathering of settlers at Opawa station, Albury, on Monday night to welcome to the district Mrs John Rutherford. Mr Rutherford was married at Turakina on Dec. 15 to Miss Wilson, daughter of Mrs Wilson, one of the pioneer settlers of the Turakina district, and the people of Albury decided to give her a hearty welcome to her new home at Opawa. The Fairlie pipers were engaged for the occasion, and they marched at the head of a procession of 150 men and women up the drive leading to Mr Rutherford's homestead. On reaching the house they were met by Mr and Mrs Rutherford, who invited them in.

At the gathering inside, Mr Robert Fraser, a near neighbour of Mr Rutherford's, presided. In his opening remarks he said that on learning that Mr Rutherford was to be married the people of the district determined to give his bride a welcome in keeping with the respect they had for him. Mr Rutherford was told of the movement, whereupon he made it known, with his characteristic generosity, that the people must go to no expense; he would himself foot all the bills. And they saw by the "spread" before them how lavishly he had provided for them. Mr Fraser went on to speak in the highest possible terms of Mr Rutherford, and said the people of the district were at all times pleased to do honour to the great benefactor of Albury. Now they were equally pleased to welcome his bride. (Hear, hear.) They did not know her very well yet, but they knew that as Mr Rutherford had chosen her for a wife, she must be a woman worthy of all the honour they could do her. (Hear, hear.) It gave them the greatest possible pleasure to welcome her to Opawa, and they hoped that she would spend many happy years in the district. Mr Fraser said he wished the duties of chairman that night had been entrusted to someone better able to do justice to Mr Rutherford's many sterling qualities, but he would give place to none in the sincerity of his welcome to Mrs Rutherford. (Applause).

Mr Robert Guthrie proposed the health of Mr and Mrs Rutherford in a lengthy speech in the course of which he dwelt on the philanthropic side of Mr Rutherford's character, and said it was quite evident that in Mrs Rutherford he had a wife of refinement and taste who would assist him to carry on kindly actions, and be a valuable acquisition to the district. (Hear, hear). The toast was drunk most enthusiastically with musical honours, and both Mr and Mrs Rutherford replied, the latter making a particularly neat speech which created a very favourable impression.

Other speakers were Messrs McCort, Wright, Yateman, Morrison, Elliott, Risk and Campbell, all of whom referred in highly complimentary terms to Mr Rutherford as a man with a. big

heart in the right place, and on behalf of the whole district they expended a very cordial welcome to his wife.

The toast of "The Ladies" was proposed by Mr Morris Fraser and replied to by Mr J. C. Martin, of Fairlie.

The speeches were interspersed by numerous songs and recitations.

The gathering concluded in the early hours of Thursday morning. It was held in a building 60ft. long, adjacent to the house, which was elaborately fitted up for the occasion, while the catering (done by the Miss Gordons of Mr Rutherford's domestic staff) could not have been excelled by a professional caterer.

Temuka Leader. Tuesday, 1 May 1917 (Papers Past) [16/10/2023]

SEND-OFF TO REINFORCEMENTS.

AT GERALDINE DRILL HALL.

A hearty send-off was given to the Geraldine district recruits on Saturday evening, the hall being filled with a most enthusiastic gathering, albeit the entertainment had arranged at short notice. Major J. Kennedy presided. The Geraldine Brass Band played several selections prior to the opening of the function.

Major J. Kennedy explained in a few opening remarks that the arrangements for the send-off had been altered three times - first the men were to go away on Wednesday, then Tuesday, and finally on Monday. They had had to have the function that night at very short notice, but he hoped that their enthusiasm would not be dampened on that account.

THE CONCERT.

Mr Knibb opened the concert by ringing two songs, in good voice, the second to an insistent recall. Miss Beattie was the next singer. She met with a cordial reception, and sang two popular songs. Mr Bruce Logan made a very able first appearance at these functions, his fine baritone voice being heard to good advantage. A recall was inevitable, and Mr Logan was quite as successful in his second song. Little Miss Chapman, who sang so nicely at the last send-off, sang the next song, and it need only be said that the little lady again found favour with the audience, and increased her popularity by the manner she acquitted herself. The Brass Band gave the next item in its well known style. The Misses Sherratt next played a duet, some Scotch melodies, with variations, which proved very acceptable. They responded to an encore, and again treated the audience to some sparkling music. Miss Beattie and Miss Campbell sang a duet, their voices blending harmoniously together. They also responded to a well deserved encore. Mr Knibb again obliged, and then Miss Chapman gave a recitation, "The Phenominal Baby," which caused great amusement. Mr Ashwell gave a recitation, in costume, "A Country Curate," which caused roars of laughter, and this brought the concert to a termination.

THE PRESENTATIONS

Major Kennedy then asked the recruits, Privates R. Ashwell, S. Brophy, and S. McCaughan, who were the only ones present, to mount the platform.

Major Kennedy said that Private Ashwell was the only Geraldine man present, though there were eleven men going forward with the draft, most of the others spending their last evening with their friends. The two other Geraldine men were Private A. R. Bruce, who was at Auckland, and Private F. A. R. Brown, who was at his home. The three men on the platform were, however, a very good sample to represent the draft. Turning to Private Ashwell, Major Kennedy said that he had great pleasure, on behalf of the citizens of Geraldine, in presenting him with a wristlet watch, in appreciation of the manner in which he had acted in taking up the

duties of a soldier to help to defend his country, he hoped he would have as many opportunities of helping to keep his comrades alive, as he had as a County Curate. (Laughter and applause.) The President of the Home and Empire League (Mrs Hislop) then presented each soldier with a parcel of comforts, shaking hands with each man, and wishing him a successful career and a safe return.

The Band struck up "Soldiers of the King," and the men were heartily cheered as they resumed their places.

Major Kennedy announced that the Temuka Patriotic Committee had invited the Geraldine men and friends to lunch at Temuka on Monday, and that cars would be available to take the men down.

The names of the eleven district men going with the draft are as follows:

Private R. Ashwell.

Private. S. Brophy.

Private. S. McCaughan.

Private F. A. R. Brown.

Private A. R. Bruce.

Private A. J. Hopping.

Private E. Maxwell,

Private T. C. Warne,

Private W. M. Buckley,

Private E. W. Farmer.

Private **J. Rutherford**, junr.

At the close of the proceedings the Band played the National Anthem. Supper was then served by the ladies to soldiers, their personal friends and the performers, and an enjoyable dance wound up a very pleasant evening.

LUNCHEON AND SEND-OFF AT TEMUKA.

Yesterday the Temuka and Geraldine men who are to join the 29th Reinforcements were entertained at luncheon by the Ladies' Patriotic Committee. Tables were laid for about 100 visitors, and nearly that number partook of the hospitality of the ladies. While the luncheon was in progress, Miss E. Twomey entertained the company with some delightful musical selections. Speeches were made by Mr Gunnion (Chairman of the Patriotic Entertainment Committee), the Rev. C. Macdonald, Major Kennedy, and the Mayor (Mr Frew).

After the luncheon the usual procession was formed, and headed by the Brass and Pipe Bands, the men were marched to the railway station, where a large crowd had assembled. Here speeches were made by Mr C. J. Talbot, the Mayor, and Mr Gunnion, and the men were cheered again and again. The send-off was a very enthusiastic one.

The following are the names of the men forming the draft of the Temuka and Geraldine men: INFANTRY.

Thomas Fitzgerald.

A. J. Harrison.

A. Harrison.

A. J. Hopping.

J. Hill.

J. Lee.

J. S. Lee.

S. McCaughan.

E. Maxwell.

E. W. Palmer.

J. Rutherford, junr.

D. W. Tooley,
M. Tangey.
T. C. Warne.
ARTILLERY.
W. R. Ashwell.
MOUNTED FORCE.
S. D. Baxter.
S. Brophy.
W. M. Buckley.
A. R. Bruce.
MEDICAL CORPS.
F. A. R. Brown.

Captain Chapman was in charge of the men.
Our report will appear in our next issue.

Temuka Leader. 3 May 1917 (Papers Past) [[16/10/2023](#)]

29th REINFORCEMENTS.

LUNCHEON AND SEND-OFF AT TEMUKA.

Owing to the action of the Defence Department in requiring the men for the 29th Reinforcements to go into camp on Monday — two days sooner than usual — the usual evening send-off in the Drill Shed had to be abandoned. Had notification of the change been sent earlier the Patriotic Entertainment Committee could have arranged an entertainment for Friday or Saturday evenings, but under all the circumstances this was not possible, and it was decided to entertain the boys and their friends at luncheon before they marched to the Railway Station on Monday. The Ladies Committee was approached, and they at once signified their willingness to provide whatever was required for the departing soldiers, their relatives, and friends. The weather was fine, with a bracing breeze, and the hall presented a very pleasing appearance. At noon on Monday, when the guests assembled, the ladies had been busy, and tables were laid for a three course luncheon for about 100 guests. Great pains had been taken with the arrangement of the tables, which were loaded with appetising viands, and adorned with flowers. The luncheon did them infinite credit.

Among the guests were Mr C. J. Talbot, M.P., Mr A. Frew (Mayor), Major Kennedy, Captain Chapman, Revs. A. H. Norris, C. Macdonald, and J. W. Griffin, Captain Hawkes, Dr. Rugg (President of the Temuka Branch of the Red Cross Society), Miss Phillips (Secretary of the local Branch of the Navy League), Mr. C. W. S. Cox and Mr F. V. Lysaght (Geraldine).

Mr Gunman, Chairman of the Patriotic Entertainment Committee, extended to all Temuka's warmest welcomes, after which grace was said by the Rev. C. Macdonald.

Full justice was then done to the good things provided, delightful music being provided by Miss E. Twomey while the luncheon was in progress.

The Chairman announced that apologies had been received from the Mayor of Geraldine, the Rev. Father Kerley, and Mr G. W. Armitage (representing the War Relief Society). He went on to explain how it was that the evening function had to be abandoned, and said how pleased Temuka was to have the Geraldine boys and their friends present. Temuka and Geraldine were sending away their full quotas, and the districts could well be proud to still have men able and willing to do what is required. He then asked the Rev. Mr Macdonald to address the gathering. The Rev. C. Macdonald, who was received with applause, said he was exceedingly pleased to be present to speak a few words of encouragement to the men who were going away, it was

very little that those who stayed behind could do for them, but they wanted to do their best. He was pleased to see the very good news contained in that morning's newspaper. He was pleased to see that things were going well with Britain and her Allies, and he was particularly pleased with the statement of Mr Lloyd George, that since June, 1915, not a single British gun had been captured by the enemy, and that for every British prisoner that had been taken by the enemy, ten German prisoners had been taken. (Applause.) It might not mean much when they read that this or that little village was taken, but when they were told authoritatively that guns had been taken by the hundred and prisoners by the thousand they knew that things were moving in the right direction. (Applause.) They might be asked if things are going so well, why they should send away more Reinforcements. They had to send them away for several reasons, but chiefly for two reasons. In the first place the British Government was not going to take any more risks. Far too many had been taken already, and they were going to make sure that they had enough men to settle the arch-traitor, who had caused the trouble. There was another reason why New Zealand was going to send Reinforcements as long as needed. We were not going to leave our boys at the front in the lurch as the Australians had done. If he was an Australian he would blush, and he was sure that for years to come decent-minded Australians would blush, that their men who had done so well were not supported. We had recently been told that the Australians had had to be taken out of the firing line because there were not men to fill up the breaches in their ranks. In the fighting that is to come New Zealanders will be there. They were not going to leave in the lurch the New Zealanders who are in the trenches. Digressing for a moment from the theme the speaker said he could not understand why any men should be allowed to hamper the Government in carrying out the law. They ought not to be allowed to do it. He would give a piece of advice, and their member, who was present, could pass it on to the Government. They should see that these men had an interview with the old lady that uses nine tongues at once — in other words, a taste of the cat-of-nine-tails. Speaking to the men who were leaving, the rev. gentleman said they were going away on a great enterprise, to fight for their King and country. He knew they would do their duty, and behave themselves, and he asked the Lord to bless them, and bring them back safely. (Applause.)

In endorsing the Rev. Mr Macdonald's remarks, the chairman said he had thought it was a pity that the protection of the British Navy could not be withdrawn from Australia for a time. It would only be what some of the people deserved.

Major Kennedy said he wished to thank the ladies of Temuka once more for their gracious hospitality to the Geraldine visitors. They had often entertained them to afternoon tea, and now they had excelled themselves, and given all a first-class luncheon. He thanked them most heartily, and expressed the hope that at some future time the Geraldine ladies would have the opportunity of entertaining the Temuka ladies and gentlemen in the same way. At the Major's request the Geraldine visitors rose and gave the Temuka people three hearty cheers.

The Mayor (Mr Frew), on behalf of the ladies, acknowledged the kind words of Major Kennedy. As all knew, they always did well in anything they undertook, and the gentlemen of Temuka were very much indebted to the ladies who are always ready to do whatever is required for the entertainment of the soldiers and visitors. He did not know what they would do without them. They were really grand workers, and did with enthusiasm anything they were asked to do. He was pleased indeed to acknowledge the compliment paid to the ladies of Temuka.

Mrs Aspinall (President of the Ladies' Entertainment Committee) then pinned the badges on to the coats of the young soldiers, and the proceedings terminated with the National Anthem.

The soldiers were then marched outside the hall, where Sergt.-Major Lorrimer called the roll, after which a procession was formed, and headed by the Brass and Pipe Bands marched to the railway station. The procession was quite a large one, and at the station a large crowd assembled to see them away.

While waiting for the train several more little speeches were made. Mr Gunnion said they were sending away some of the finest boys they had yet sent. They were going away to uphold the honour of their towns and country, and those they left behind were proud of them. He hoped they would not see any fighting, but if they did he knew they would quit themselves as they ought. When they came back they would be heartily welcomed. New Zealand ought to be proud, for they were told in the morning's papers that America, the most democratic country in the world, had adopted conscription to carry on the war, the same as New Zealand had already done. He called for cheers for the boys who were going away.

Mr Talbot commenced by complimenting the Patriotic Committee on the practical way in which they had met the difficulties that had arisen in the way of entertaining the men before they went away. It was evident they could rise to any emergency, and it was the same with the whole British nation. At the beginning of the war they were caught napping. Yet they had pulled themselves together, and made one of the very best armies in the world. (Applause.) The men who were going away were going to be part of that army. Those who had gone before had proved that they were equal to the best troops in the world. He knew that those who were going that day would quit themselves as well as any who had gone before. They had the satisfaction of knowing that they had the whole of the country behind them. The recent municipal elections had proved that clearly enough and showed that the people were fully prepared to see the war through. Those they were leaving would miss them, they would be always in their minds, and their doings would cause feelings of pride as long as we are a people. He wished them every success, and knowing that they would do their part, with the utmost bravery, wished them "God speed." (Applause.)

The Mayor said although we were proud to see the boys going away we would be still more glad to see them coming back after vanquishing the foe. They would have a great deal to do, and they knew what was in front of them. He referred to the words of Lloyd-George, that the efforts of the enemy only served to bring out the "grit" of the country. That was true of New Zealand soldiers. The harder the task the more determined they were to overcome it. (Applause.) It was good to hear that the balance of power was on the Allies' side. He referred with satisfaction to America joining the Allies, and said with her help the submarine menace should be soon mastered. In conclusion, he said he was proud to see the boys going away to help those who had gone before, and assured them of a hearty welcome on their return.

At the Mayor's call more cheers were given for the boys.

Major Kennedy said the Geraldine boys were glad to come and join those from Temuka. The lads were going away to do their duty, as others had done. He gave them a few kindly words of counsel regarding "discipline." The men who had gone had been a credit to their country, and to the men who had trained them. He wished them not to forget, however, that while they were part of the British Army they were also New Zealanders, and that they were fighting against a tyrannous nation. He assured them of a hearty welcome on their return. (Applause.) The men then said good-bye to their friends, and as the train steamed away they were cheered, again and again.

The South Canterbury men were in the charge of Captain Chapman.

Following are the Temuka and Geraldine men:

INFANTRY.

Thomas Fitzgerald.

A. J. Harrison.

A. Harrison.

A. J. Hopping,

J. Hill.

J. Lee.

J. S. Lee.

S. McCaughan.
E. Maxwell.
E. W. Palmer.
J. Rutherford, junr.
D. W. Tooley.
M. Tangney.
T. C. Warne.
ARTILLERY.
W. R. Ashwell.
MOUNTED FORCE.
S. D. Baxter.
S. Brophy.
W. M. Buckley.
A. R. Bruce.
MEDICAL CORPS.
F. A. R. Brown.

Timaru Herald. 16 October 1919 (Papers Past) [15/10/2023]

SOLDIERS WELCOMED CHAMBERLAIN AND MT. NESSING MEN.

The generosity and hospitality of Mr and Mrs J. S. Sutherland, Opawa, has become proverbial throughout South Canterbury, and was again demonstrated in a very practical manner last Friday evening, when the people of the Mt. Nessing and Chamberlain settlement met as their guests in the Mt. Nessing Hall, in order to accord a fitting welcome home to all the men of the district who have seen service and have been spared to return after doing their bit for King and Country. The men have returned in ones and twos, and have been given a cordial reception as they arrived by the Chamberlain and Mt. Nessing Patriotic Society, but now that all who have survived have got safely back, Mr and Mrs Rutherford were desirous of giving a real hearty welcome home at which all the men could be got together.

The capacity of the Mt. Nessing Hall, however, was never intended for such a memorable gathering or the assembly of such a large crowd, and in order to house all whom it was desirous to entertain several marquees had to be erected. A large tent was put up as a dining room, another was erected as a card and games room for gentlemen, and a third as a ladies' room, in addition to the hall, which was used as a general assembly and dancing room.

The weather was ideal and people from every corner of the extensive settlement availed themselves of the hearty invitation sent out, while a party of visitors from Timaru and the Fairlie Pipe Band were "commandeered" by Mr Rutherford in order to do fitting honour to the occasion. The Pipe Band, under Pipe-major Philip, enlivened the proceedings during the gathering of the public by playing several selections.

The first part of the evening took the form of a concert, and was opened by a few remarks by Mr Rutherford. He expressed the great pleasure it afforded Mrs Rutherford and himself to see so many friends there that evening to accord their boys a fitting welcome home. He paid a well-deserved tribute to the patriotism of the manhood of the district, as demonstrated in the number who had given their services, and he was sure every man, while away, had amply upheld the reputation of the district. (Applause.) While the boys were on active service there was ever present in the district a feeling of deep anxiety, but now that the dark clouds of trouble had

rolled away, he hoped the daily life of the settlement would revert to its former tranquillity and peacefulness. They could not estimate their indebtedness to their boys for all their services at the front. They had played a great part in a universal crisis, and had done a great deal to lay the formation of that long-predicted time.

When man to man the world o'er,
Would brothers be an' a' that.

The musical programme, which was of a high class order, was then proceeded with and was carried through to the great enjoyment of all present by the following: — Misses Ferrier (pianist), Vogeler and May Warrington (vocalists), May Radcliffe (elocutionist), and Norman Radcliffe, who has just returned from service (vocalist). A feature of the evening were comic songs by a member of the Fairlie Pipe Band, while Drummer Roy Croydon danced an Irish Jig in fine style.

Before the supper interval, to the stirring strains of martial airs, sixteen returned men marched through the hall to the platform amid a scene of great enthusiasm. There Mrs Rutherford pinned a medal on the tunic of Troopers Fraser, Gudsell, and Guthrie, the last three men to return.

Captain Bruce Gillies then delivered a patriotic speech, complimenting the men on having played their part in the great struggle and congratulating them being spared to return.

Sergeant-Major Page, D.C.M., M.M., on behalf of the returned soldiers thanked Mr and Mrs Rutherford for their great kindness and hospitality, not only on that occasion but while the war was raging. He could assure them that those who had been privileged to see service, and come home to such a cordial and hearty reception would ever remember those who had been instrumental in making them feel really at home, after the hardships they had endured.

Trooper Fraser also returned thanks for the medals that had been presented that night.

Supper was then partaken of and 250 guests sat down to a most sumptuous repast. The catering was in the capable hands of Miss McLeay of the Arcade Cafe, and was carried out in a most creditable manner. After the supper, the hall was cleared and dancing was carried on until an early hour in the morning, when a memorable and highly enjoyable function concluded with the singing of Auld Lang Syne, and enthusiastic cheers for Mr and Mrs Rutherford.