

Sun. 15 June 1915 (Papers Past) [14/02/2026]

**THE EMPIRE'S CALL.
SEVENTH REINFORCEMENTS.
DEPARTURE FOR TRENTHAM.**

GOOD RECRUITING YESTERDAY.

The Canterbury quota of the 7th Reinforcements —120 infantry, 40 mounted, and 3 veterinarians — left last evening for the Trentham concentration camp. The men paraded at King Edward Barracks at 6 p.m., and out of the numbers given only four infantrymen failed to report themselves. The vacancies thus caused in the quota will be filled by the dispatch this evening of men on the waiting list.

At the Barracks his Worship the Mayor farewelled the recruits. He congratulated them on the step they were taking, and expressed the hope that they would perform great deeds of valour. In the name of the citizens and those who loved them, he urged them to be loyal to their King and country and loyal to themselves. The people here would keep a cosy corner in their hearts for them, and watch the notice board in Cathedral Square from day to day for news of their movements and doings. He urged them to acquit themselves like men and follow the great example of the men who had gone before them and performed the seemingly impossible task they had.

Cheers for the Mayor and for the King followed Mr Holland's address.

Colonel Chaffey wished the men good luck in a brief speech. "I want to tell you," he said, "how we military chaps envy you on your having the right to go. You have a great duty to perform, but it is a great privilege to fight the battles of the Empire. You can all look back to it in your old age. We wish you good luck; the whole of Canterbury will be looking forward to seeing you emulating the great deeds already performed by New Zealanders at the front. You have got to make yourselves fit to do the same, and I am sure you will do it. Go on, boys, and good luck to you."

Escorted by the C.Y.C., Citizens' Defence Corps, Caledonian Pipe, and Senior Cadets' Drum and Fife Bands, and by 500 members of the Citizens' Defence Corps, the men, under Captain Northcote, marched to the railway station through long lines of spectators. A special train awaited them at the station, and they quickly boarded it. The arrangements for the departure were carried out without a hitch, and the train left punctually on time.

The following men comprised the quota: —

INFANTRY.

H. J. Anderson, M. Ashby, J. Barnett, J. Brown, **W. Brosnahan**, W. L. Burgess, W. J. Bellamy,
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MOUNTED RIFLES.

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VETERINARY SECTION.

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AT LYTTTELTON.

A large crowd assembled on the ferry wharf at Lyttelton to bid the men good-bye. The Lyttelton Unit of the Citizens' Defence Corps, the Boy Scouts, and the Coast Defence Band paraded, and the band played a number of patriotic airs before the Maori pulled out.

THE CALL TO THE COLOURS.
SEVENTH REINFORCEMENTS LEAVE CHRISTCHURCH.
FAREWELL CEREMONY.

The people of Christchurch gave a royal send-off to the Christchurch quota of the Seventh Reinforcements, which left for Trentham last night. The men paraded at the King Edward Barracks at 6 o'clock, and when the roll was called it was found that out of 120 infantry, 40 mounted and 3 veterinarians notified to attend, all were present but two mounted men and ten infantry. Subsequently the two mounted men and six of the missing infantry reported themselves. This time only the proper quota was called, and consequently no one was left lamenting, as happened in the case of the departure of the Earl of Liverpool's Own. The few vacancies in the quota will be filled by the despatch to-day of men on the waiting list.

A few words of farewell were addressed to the troops by the Mayor (Mr H. Holland). His Worship congratulated them most heartily on the step they were taking, and only wished he were younger in order that he might also take his place in the fighting line. Everyone believed, he said, that seven was a lucky number. (Hear, hear.) He hoped they would perform great deeds of valour, and in the name of the citizens and those who loved them, he urged them to be loyal to their King and country, and loyal to themselves. He beseeched them to keep themselves fit and to look after themselves. The people here would keep a cosy corner in their hearts for them, and watch the notice board in Cathedral square from day to day for news of their movements and doings. Let them acquit themselves like men, and follow the great example of the New Zealanders who had gone before them and performed the seemingly impossible task they had. In the name of the citizens of Christchurch he wished them God-speed and a pleasant time, and hoped that success would crown their efforts. Finally, he urged them to be loyal to their officers. Three lusty cheers were given by the men for the Mayor, and then they gave three cheers for the King.

A bright and breezy speech was then given by Colonel Chaffey, officer commanding the district. "One word or two boys, I should like to say to you," he said. "I want to tell you how we military chaps envy you on your having the right to go. You have a great duty to perform, but it is a great privilege to fight the battles of the Empire. You can all look back to it in your old age. We wish you good-luck; the whole of Canterbury will be looking forward to seeing you emulating the great deeds already performed by New Zealanders at the front. You have got to make yourselves fit to do the same, and I am sure you will do it. Go on, boys, and good luck to you."

"Three cheers for the colonel," called out one of the men and three hearty cheers they gave him, followed by three cheers for the ladies.

Escorted by the C.Y.C., Citizens' Defence Corps, Caledonian Pipe, and Senior Cadets' Drum and Fife Bands, playing lively music, and by 500 members of the Citizens' Defence Corps, the Sevenths, under Captain Northcote, then marched to the city railway station through long lines of spectators. At the station a special train was awaiting them, and very quickly they were aboard it and were on the first stage of their departure for the land of adventure. The arrangements for the departure of the men were carried out without a hitch, and the train left punctually on time.

The following men comprised the quota despatched to Trentham last night: —

INFANTRY.

H. J. Anderson, M Ashby, J. Barrett, J. Brown, **W. Brosnahan**,

MOUNTED RIFLES.

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VETERINARY SECTION.

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A large crowd assembled on the ferry wharf, Lyttelton, to bid the men good-bye. The Lyttelton unit of the Citizens' Defence Corps, the Boy Scouts, and the Coast Defence Band, turned out, the last named playing a number of patriotic airs prior to the Maori leaving.