

**THE NEW UNIT
EARL OF LIVERPOOL'S OWN.
DEPARTURE OF OTAGO'S MEN.
FIT AND HEARTY.
AN INSPIRING FAREWELL.**

If you want to fight.

Go to Europe;

If you want to talk war,

Go to h---!

This boldly-printed instruction in the central recruiting office exactly represents the spirit of the times, and the mind of the men who form Otago's quota for the special infantry battalions — the Trentham Regiment (Earl of Liverpool's Own) — and who left Dunedin this forenoon for the training camp at Trentham. They were a hefty lot drawn from industrial centres, country towns, and upland farms, eager to go to Europe to fight, and ready to tell those who remain at home to talk of war to go to the region where German tactics must be appreciated. They were worthy of the enthusiastic send-off by the citizens. The men who entrained to-day represent the first quota of volunteers for active service since the casualty lists have told a heart-stirring story of the steady achievements of the splendid New Zealand Brigade who have been making history for their country in the far land of a formidable foe.

It is a delight to be able to record that the send-off was the best of a series of farewells which were occasionally vexatiously inadequate. One felt that the spirit of the citizens who thronged the main streets for two hours had awakened to the real value and need of a brave marching out of sturdy men to battle, and that the pride and sad gladness — the same that give one "a great inclination to cry" — of the cheering populace were deep and true. A better measure of the men's sacrifice for home and Flag has been gained from the lists that record the price of true patriotism.

In the early morning the City was gay with flags, the sky bright with sunshine, and no one could forget that another contingent of their wise young men were going out to war.

The recruits assembled in the Garrison Hall a little after 10 o'clock, and impressed a great attendance of spectators with their bearing and their gaiety of spirit. Captain Eraser, N.Z.S.C., accompanied by Sergeant-majors Cummings and Bishop, was in command, and immediately, with an exercise of characteristic tact and friendly firmness, had the men eager to perform several elementary military movements with a striving for precision and uniformity that held promise of excellent results from thorough training. Their enthusiasm and willingness indeed more than counter-balanced their crudity of soldierly movement. The real stuff out of which effective soldiers is made was there, and the spectators saw it on the instant, and expressed their appreciation in hearty cheers. When it came time for a few farewell instructions from the commanding officer the spirit of the men was revealed at its best. They chuckled at Captain Fraser's genial advice to curb a possibly frantic desire to see friends at a place called Timaru. The men caught the captain's meaning at once, and enjoyed the hint at that desire which may be described in a familiar way as providing "a wee drap in the bottle for the morning."

It is true that five or six thousand people in and about the streets adjacent to the Garrison Hall, and as many more in streets near the railway station and along the proposed line of march, had a rather long wait for the final parade of the recruits, but it was worth waiting for in the wintry wind. The explanation of the delay was a pleasure — the arrival of the Southland men who came briskly from the station to Macandrew street to join the Dunedin quota, singing as they marched, and frequently responding cordially to the welcoming cheers of the crowd. And as

they swung up Macandrew street to the rear entrance of the Garrison Hall the Dunedin men poured out from the main entrance in Dowling street. And as formed in ranks, the 4th Regiment Band (Lieutenant George), headed by mounted policemen, whose sable charges steadied the onpressing citizens, moved forward, their drum stirring the spirit of the people, set out at a brisk pace for the railway station. There must have been 10 or 12 thousand people lining the route, and their manner of viewing the excellent procession was on the principle of continuous moving pictures. They would take a satisfying view from the best vantage point available — occasionally a stationary tramcar for preference — and then dash by a short cut to gain another glimpse of the hurrying column of 400 men. Of course it was impossible, as the crowd became denser towards the railway station, to maintain the steadiness of trained soldiers, but nobody cared about method. The great thing was that strong men were steadily heading for the way to war, and were with excellent humor making a very creditable display. In the open space fronting the station many thousands of citizens raised a glad welcome as the column filed into a square. Every vantage point about the railway and adjoining buildings was crowded, and everywhere and all the time the spirit of enthusiasm prevailed. A welcome touch of brightness was lent to the column by the uniformed boys of the Albany Street School Fife Band. The send-off was excellent in every detail.

THE SPEECHES.

The men were expected at the Railway Station by 11.5, but it was nearly 11.30 when the blare of the brass instruments of the Regimental Band and the sudden surge of the crowd towards the roped square in front of the station facade announced the approach. Time was short, and there were no delays, the men being quickly marshalled in front of the lorries from which the speakers made their addresses.

At once the Mayor (Mr J. J. Clark) stepped forward and called for three cheers for the heroic and self-sacrificing men who were going to the front.

These were given with a will.

Mr Clark went on to say that they were assembled to wish good luck, and to bid a temporary farewell to the men who were going forward to take their part in the war, and they sent these men away with the utmost confidence that they would worthily uphold the honor of the Dominion. The time had come when pleasant asying [saying?] must cease, when everyone should realise that the British Empire was passing through the greatest trial of its existence. The Empire was calling for the assistance of everyone, and it was the duty of everyone to do what he or she could against the brutal and cruel foe that was seeking to crush us under the iron heel of militarism. He could assure the men standing before him that Otago did appreciate the heroism and self-sacrifice that led them to enlist, and even above that appreciation was the country's appreciation of the sacrifice that was being made by the relatives who allowed the men to do. He could only say that those who were left behind through age or infirmity would pledge themselves to try and make the path of those loved ones as smooth and pleasant as was possible, till the men returned to them. (Cheers.) Our boys had been making history in the Dardanelles, and we looked to this new unit to gain additional laurels. He knew that they could be trusted to withstand the temptations that would beset them, and he would only say to them in conclusion: "Press on, press on, and we who must remain here will ask at least in earnest prayer God's blessing on the right." (Cheers.)

Mr John Roberts, C.M.G. (Vice-consul for Italy), was deemed with a great shout of "Three cheers for Italy." In the course of a very brief speech he conjured the men to lay down as their chart of conduct the farewell message of Earl Kitchener to the troops, which they would find in the Testaments handed to them, and in the time of temptation to think of their mothers and their sisters — a thought that would preserve them from the commission of any evil.

Mr C. E. Statham, M.P., said that at a time like this a people's heart was filled with conflicting feeling. There was a certain inevitable sadness even while they felt great joy and pride in the

fact that so many men had volunteered. It was a time for self-sacrifice, and it gave them a legitimate feeling of pride to know how great was the number of men who were showing themselves true sons of their fathers. It was good to know that Otago had come to the front again and kept up her reputation. He would like to remind the men that there were stirring times ahead of them; that they went to-day with the cheers of their friends in their ears; that wherever their business might be there would be British cheers awaiting them; and that the proud cheers of their fellow citizens would welcome them back. The people knew that the honor of the Dominion and of the Flag was safe in the hands of the Earl of Liverpool's Own Regiment, and he was voicing the universal sentiment when he said: "Good-bye, good luck. God bless you all!" (Cheers.)

The band of the 4th Regiment (under Lieutenant George) now played a verse of 'Onward, Christian Soldiers'; the Rev. Graham Balfour offered an eloquent prayer and concluded with the Benediction — "The blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, rest upon you and abide with you, now and for evermore."

Cheers were exchanged as the band struck up and the men marched into the station.

THE QUOTA.
ONLY 50 SHORT.

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When it is remembered that there was a serious deficit of men for Otago's quota for the new unit only 10 days ago, it was particularly gratifying to all those who have worked hard to encourage recruiting to know that the shortage to-day was not more than 50 men. The quota went north by special train, and were in charge of Lieutenant Brache, temporary N.Z.S.C.

As the train left the station a few minutes late there was prolonged cheering, heartily acknowledged by the soldiers.

MEN WHO HAVE GONE.

The following are the names of the men who enlisted in the Dunedin group, and went forward to-day: -

NON-TERRITORIALS.

Archibald Lament Annand, Arthur Gilbert Avery,

Timothy Nelligan.

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Otago Witness. 2 June 1915 (Papers Past) [05/02/2024]

THE EMPIRE'S CALL.
NEW ZEALAND'S NEW UNIT
EARL OF LIVERPOOL'S OWN.
OTAGO QUOTA LEAVES FOR TRENTHAM.
ENTHUSIASTIC SEND-OFF.

The Dunedin, Milton, and Southland sections of Otago's quota for the new unit of the dominion's reinforcements left Dunedin on Saturday by special train at midday. They numbered 408, and a contingent of 98 joined at Oamaru, making a total from Otago of 506, of about 30 short of the required number. The numbers contributed by the four districts were: Dunedin 166, Southland (except Mataura Valley) 155, Milton 87, Oamaru 98.

The men mustered in the Garrison Hall at 10 o'clock for roll-call and orders. A large crowd gathered in front of the building and many made their way into the hall, where from the gallery

they heard their friends respond to the call to uphold “Britain’s honour, virtue, and liberty.” Captain Fraser, N.Z.S.C., was in charge, assisted by Sergeant-majors Cummings and Bishop. After the men had answered to their names and lined up they were instructed in a few elementary movements, which they performed with alacrity and a willingness that promises well for their future. It was easy to distinguish the Territorial from the non-Territorial, but, taking them all in all, they were a smart, well-set-up lot, and the Earl of Liverpool’s Own is likely to do every credit to Otago, not only in the instruction classes at Trentham, but also in the more serious work in which it may be engaged before long.

When the men were ready to move off they were shortly addressed by Captain Fraser who gave them advice as to the conduct expected of them on the train, his remarks meeting with warm endorsement. He also requested them not to break the ranks on the way to the railway station to speak to friends, as an opportunity would be afforded them in a few weeks to return to say good-bye. The men also appreciated this announcement.

No kits were distributed by the Women’s Patriotic Association. They will be all sent to Wellington and handed to the men in the camp at Trentham.

Shortly after 11 o’clock the Milton and Invercargill sections reached the hall. All the men then left by the main door leading into Dowling street, and, headed by the 4th Regiment Band, marched through the city, by way of High street, Princes street, the Octagon, and Stuart street to the railway station. School bands were stationed here and there on the route, and the line of march was thronged by the public, which cheered lustily, at certain points, notably in the Octagon. Hundreds of people also flocked to windows and balconies to get a view of the departing troops. It was a gay and inspiring scene, and one which will be held in memory for a long time with pleasure. The patriotic ardour aroused by the occasion was further stirred by a lavish display of flags all over the city, several buildings showing the flags of the allied nations, including that of our new ally—Italy.

AT THE RAILWAY STATION.

At 11.25 the 4th Regiment Band entered the space roped off in front of the railway station, and in a short time the whole of the force had been lined up before two lorries, from which the farewell speeches were made. After the singing of the National Anthem, the Mayor (Mr J. J. Clark) gave a rousing address, and was followed by Mr John Roberts, C.M.G., and Mr C. E. Statham. M.P.

The 4th Regiment Band leading, a verse of the hymn “Onward, Christian Soldiers” was sung, after which the Rev. G. H. Balfour offered prayer on behalf of the men who were leaving. Cheers were given heartily for the “boys” who were going to the front, followed by cheers for those at the front and for the fathers and mothers.

The troops then marched through the main entrance and boarded their train. The immense crowd was soon filing down towards St. Andrew street, and every available point of vantage was seized upon. The band kept up the constant strains of “Tipperary,” many people climbed the railings, and others even went down to Hanover street, and made for the platform from that quarter. At last, at a minute or two past noon, the train slowly moved out, amid frantic cheering, in which the band, playing “Auld Lang Syne,” had hard work to make itself heard.

The Otago Women's Association, which always does things well, had the comfort of the men on their long journey in mind, and supplied baskets of sandwiches, cakes, and fruit in addition to the provision made by the Government.

The train was in charge of Lieutenant Bracks, N.Z.S.C.

THE ROLL.

DUNEDIN GROUP.

NON-TERRITORIALS. - Archibald Lamont Annand,, Timothy Nelligan,

THE TRENTHAM REGIMENT
EARL OF LIVERPOOL'S OWN.

WELLINGTON, May 28.

A Gazette notice states that his Excellency the Governor has approved of the proposal that the special infantry battalions now mobilising at Trentham shall be designated the Trentham Regiment (the Earl of Liverpool's Own) as from May 1. His Excellency has been appointed colonel of the regiment.