

**OFF TO THE FRONT.
NINTH REINFORCEMENTS.
THE SECOND DRAFT.**

**WAIPUKURAU.
A BIG FAREWELL.
(Own Correspondent.)**

The true patriotic spirit of true Britishers is very apparent in Waipukurau. On Monday morning flags were to be seen flying in all directions, and all the business premises of the town were closed for a couple of hours in the morning in honour of the departure from our midst of a large contingent of 48 men, who left by the mail train to go into camp. At 9.30 a.m. a very large crowd of people gathered at the Town Hall, where the men were tendered an enthusiastic public farewell by Mr. W. A. Chambers, who apologised for the unavoidable absence of his Worship the Mayor (Mr. J. Winlove). Mr. Chambers, in a few well-chosen words, wished the men God-speed and a safe and speedy return. He also urged the need for recruits to fill tip the quotas for the future reinforcements. Revs. Stace and White and Platoon-Commander Gibson (National Reserve) also addressed the audience, wishing the departing men all sorts of good luck and a safe return, the last named also urging on the necessity of further recruiting.

The Town Band then played "God Save the King," the audience joining in. Three ringing cheers for our boys were then enthusiastically given.

A procession headed by the Town Band (under Bandmaster Young), and followed by the departing men (under Sergeant-Major Rowe), the School Drum and Fife Band (under Mr. J. W. Broadley), the schoolchildren (under Mr. Curd), and the National Reserve and Waipukurau Rifle Club (under Captain Gibson and Lieutenant Shepherd) then marched through the main thoroughfare, accompanied by music being played en route by the Town Band, School Drum and Fife Band and Piper Sutherland (bagpipes).

By the time the procession reached the station the station grounds were crowded with the largest crowd seen in our town for many a day. As the train steamed out of the station loud and prolonged cheers were heard to echo and re-echo, first by the public and then answered by the departing lads.

The function was one of the most enthusiastic ever seen here.

The following men left this area: -

Waipukurau: W. Innes. P. Eagan, W. J. McPherson, W. Pope,

Takapau:

Waipawa:

Onga Onga:

Otane:

Porangahau:

Argyll East:

Elsthorpe:

Hatuma:

E. T. Trevelyan, of Takapau, was to join the train at Palmerston North.

Waimate Daily Advertiser. 21 November 1919 (Papers Past) [08/10/2024]

KAPUA **FINAL WELCOME HOME TO SOLDIERS.**

(Advertiser Correspondent)

A social and dance was held in the Arno Soldiers' Memorial Hall on Wednesday night. The Waihao Downs and Arno Soldiers' Welcome Home Committees amalgamated for the purpose of giving the last of their respective men to return a hearty and monster welcome back to their old homes. The names of the last five men to return are as follow: Gunner G. L. R. Laverty, Gunner Colin A. Cameron, and Private George McCulloch (Waihao Downs); Gunner Martin McPherson and Trooper Major (Arno). There was a large gathering, the floor being in excellent order. Dancing was thoroughly enjoyed. During the evening various items were contributed. Miss Ailsa Hossack sang "The Meeting of the Waters" (Irish ballad), which received a good round of applause, Mr Charles Olorenshaw (baritone) sang "When the Bells of Peace are Ringing," for which he got a good rally, responding with "Until." Miss Gerty Pashby gave a recitation "That's a Fact," in pleasing style.

After a good supper, which was provided by the ladies, had been served, Mr H. Meredith proceeded to make the presentation of medals, which he said gave him very great pleasure to have the honour of doing. These men, he said, had gone away in the early stages of the war and had endured all kinds of trials and hardships, and he was very glad to see them back in health and strength. These were some of the lucky ones. He then asked Mrs Tavendale, Senr, to pin the medals on the coats of the men.

Trooper Major and Gunner Laverty were absent and Mr C. E. d'Auvergne accepted the medals on their behalf. The recipients suitably responded, thanking Mr Meredith for his kind remarks and the people of the district for their appreciation. Mr d'Auvergne briefly responded on behalf of the absentees. He mentioned that most of the returned men were inclined to be very modest and did not like fuss. Gunner Laverty had told him that he would rather hop up in No Man's Land than go to the hall. "They are Jolly Good Fellows" was then sung and dancing was resumed and kept up till the early hours. Music was supplied by Messrs Jas. Tavendale and A. Sheppard. Mr John Wall was M.C. Mr Chas Pelvin contributed several extras. Miss Fanny Pashby acted as accompaniste.

Timaru Herald. 14 November 1939 (Papers Past) [08/10/2024]

GUTTED BY FIRE **Wash-house Destroyed** **Brigade Saves House**

Considerable damage was caused by fire which completely gutted a washhouse on the property of Mr M. J. McPherson, 136 North Street, shortly before 9 o'clock yesterday morning.

The Brigade received a call about 8.45. and although they were on the scene very promptly, the wash-house was blazing from end to end. The building was detached from the residence, but the flames were so fierce that the paintwork on the back wall of the house was considerably blistered and the barge boards were alight when the brigade arrived.

It was obvious to Superintendent E. W. McCann that little could be done to save the wash-house, so the brigade turned their attention to saving the house, and in this direction they did good work.

The wash-house must have been on fire for some time before the outbreak was discovered. Mrs McPherson had been in the wash-house early, and had gone inside to attend to household duties. She was in the house for some time, and when she went outside she was unable to get near the wash-house for the flames.

It is presumed that some firing fell out on to the floor from under the copper, and that some clothing lying on the floor caught alight, and from this the building took fire. The contents of the wash-house, including the washing, were destroyed.