

## **THE DEMAND OF WAR.**

### **EIGHTEENTHS CALLED UP.**

This morning afforded another illustration of the young New Zealanders' response to the call of duty, the district's quota of the Eighteenth Reinforcements mustering in Palmerston and departing for camp. One notable feature regarding this district and its reinforcement drafts is that the greater the duration of the war the greater has been the enthusiasm and alacrity with which the recruits have responded to the call of arms. This morning's draft was one of the largest that has ever gathered in Palmerston, and as they marched into the Square where their formal send off was to take place, they presented a fine appearance, and gave an impression of confidence that the new men will uphold the proud record of the reinforcements which have preceded them. The function this morning attracted more than usual attention, and the attendance of citizens was very large. The greatest enthusiasm was displayed, and the Eighteenth were warmly cheered by the by-standers as they stepped out to the lively tempo of the Municipal Band, which played them to the point of departure.

The Mayor, Mr J. A. Nash, was the first speaker at the farewell function, and said he regarded it as a privilege to say a few words to the men before they left the camp. He was pleased to see the large number of recruits who had assembled that morning prepared to do their duty for King and Empire. (Applause.) New Zealand's army was growing day by day, and the time was not far distant when this country would be represented on all fronts. He said it was most satisfactory to notice that although the Compulsory Service Bill had been carried in the House, it would not be necessary to put it into operation in the Dominion if the example of this district was followed in other parts of the country. We all hoped that we would be able to carry on without compulsion. (Hear, hear.) The Mayor then read two war cables, stating that the Italians had achieved a great victory over the Austrians, and the Russians had carried their Austrian offensive into Hungary. (Cheers.) "I don't want to detain you further," concluded the Mayor, "but my parting advice is, don't forget the late Lord Kitchener's advice: 'Do your duty and honour the King.'"

Colonel Hume expressed his pleasure at being present to say a few words to the men. In their work in camp they would have the services of an instructional staff that was second to none, and he hoped that every man would make the best use of his time there. "You will be taught your duty," said the speaker, "and how to become a soldier of the King. Don't forget the proud record of the comrades who have gone before you, but I am satisfied that in your hands that record will not be blemished." He advised the men to be careful in their general conduct. At the front they would be supplied with water bottles. They would be all the better if they left these alone, also every other kind of water bottle. (Laughter.) As regards the N.C.O.'s, they had great responsibilities. They should take every care for the comfort and efficiency of their men, and to remember that what was good enough for the men was good enough for them. (Applause.) "Do your duty, and remember that promotion is open to all of you if you have the inclination and ability," said the Colonel in conclusion. "Farewell, a safe return, and may success attend your arms." (Cheers.)

The Rev. A. Doull was the other speaker. He expressed his pride at the excellence of the parade, and prayed that the men would reach the front safely, as their duty as soldiers, and have a safe return to their homes, where warm welcomes would await them. (Applause.)

Cheers for the troops were given on the call of the Mayor, and was heartily returned by the men, who were then marched to the station.

### **THE MEN.**

The names of the men who left for camp are as follows: -

Infantry. — A. D. Anderson, C. E. Armstrong, J. R. Anderson, F. Allcock, F. T. Ansell, **B. J. Brosnan**, P. Burns, J. C. Bruce, W. H. Bryan, W. B. Bruce, J. J. H. Best, E. Blain, W. E. Browne, J. E. Beckett, R. Butler, Bryant, . . . . .

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## FAREWELL TO ALBURY SOLDIERS.

### A PLEASANT EVENING.

The Albury Public Hall was packed on Thursday evening last when Privates V. O.[sic] Sullivan, J. O'Reilly, B. Brosnan, W. Higgs, and J. Blair, all very popular young men of the district were given a public farewell. These men are of the 18th Reinforcements, and were on final leave. Messrs B. Blair and W. McVey, who leave with the next quota, were also present. Some of them have brothers at the Front, while Private J. O'Reilly's brother was killed in the Gallipoli campaign.

Mr A. Lindsay presided, and in his opening remarks pointed out why they all should fight for the freedom they at present possessed, and hoped to maintain. As a schoolmaster he was well acquainted with the departing soldiers, as they had been pupils of his, and he felt sure they would acquit themselves as those who had gone before them, and uphold the honour and name New Zealand boys had made at the Front. He then made a presentation to each of the departing men, and all were heartily cheered.

Messrs J. McCort and D. Angland also spoke, and wished the soldiers God Speed, good luck, and a safe return.

Private V. Sullivan, who responded on behalf of the departing soldiers, thanked the speakers for their complimentary remarks, and their good wishes, as well as for their handsome presents, and said he hoped that they would all get to the firing line, and prove themselves worthy of those who had gone before them.

Mrs Patterson, as on all previous occasions presided at the piano. Vocal items were given, and the evening concluded with three cheers for the departing soldiers, and the singing of Auld Lang Syne.