SOLDIERS' LETTERS.

A FIELD AMBULANCE MAN.

ANXIOUS TO GET ASHORE.

Trooper A. D.[sic] Hawke, of the South Canterbury Mounted Field Ambulance, writing from a "Fleet Sweeper" to his mother, Mrs W. Hawke, Lingodells, Geraldine, says: —

I am again on the sea, was very glad to get away from Lemnos: was working for a fortnight in the hospital there, and it is a terrible place for wind and flies. I am detached from the Mounted Ambulance at present, and have been ever since we left Egypt. I have not managed to get ashore at Gallipoli yet, but it is my ambition to do so, and I may have the luck any day now as we are just alongside the coast every second day. We have had shrapnel landing near us, and also a few bombs from air craft, but that is nothing so long as they don't hit you. There are only nine N.Z.M.C's, that is not counting our two skippers, and we have to look after (censored). I am afraid Mr Censor will object if I give you details.

Timaru Herald. 22 September 1919

GERALDINE CHURCH OF ENGLAND. WELCOME TO RETURNED SOLDIERS.

The Church or England, Geraldine, gave a most successful welcome home, last Thursday evening, to all the returned soldiers connected with the Church.

A short service of thanksgiving for the safe return of the men from the war, and a memorial service for those who had perished, was first held in the church, conducted by Canon Hamilton and the Rev. G. B. Hansen. The church was thronged by a large congregation, every part of the parish being represented.

A social was afterwards held in the Oddfellows' Hall, and the gathering was so large that the capacity of the building was fully taxed. The proceedings opened with the singing of the National Anthem, led by the Geraldine Orchestra, which then played an overture of popular airs. Games and competitions, with songs by Miss Cole and Mr Knibb, and selections by the Orchestra were greatly enjoyed by young and old. Some of the competitions were most amusing, and the hat trimming competition, for which ten men entered, was voted the best item of the evening. Mr **Roy Hawke** was placed first, Mr M. Cooke second, and Mr Z. Sherratt last.

After the supper interval Canon Hamilton, on belief of the parishioners, welcomed the men who had returned from active service. He said that although all the men would be getting a public welcome it was thought desirable that the Church should give a special welcome to those who were connected with the parish. He sorry that it was found impossible to invite those belonging to other churches, but the crowd would have been so large that the organisers of the welcome would not have been able to cope with it. He had been anxious this year, not only to give a church welcome to those who had returned, but he thought it desirable to have a church memorial for the men who had laid down their lives in the great conflict. The war had been a righteous war, and it was fitting that a church memorial be erected. He had advocated the erection of a cross, but as the public memorial was to take that form, he

thought a Lych Gate would be a very suitable memorial instead. The names of the fallen could be inscribed on tablets placed under the roof of the gate, and the public would always be reminded of their brave deeds.

From eleven to twelve o'clock, to satisfy the claims of the young people, dancing took place, Miss E. Templar, Miss I. Scott, Miss E. Gimson and the Orchestra supplying the music, and Mr W. Lewis acting as M.C.

Temuka Leader. 23 September 1919

CHURCH OF ENGLAND GERALDINE.

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After the supper interval, Canon Hamilton, on behalf of the parishioners, took the opportunity of welcoming the men who had returned from active service. He said although all the men would be getting a public welcome it was thought advisable that the church should give a special welcome to those who were connected with the parish. He was sorry that it was found impossible to invite those belonging to other churches, but the crowd would have been so large that the organisers of the welcome would not have been able to cope with it. He had been anxious this year, not only to give a church welcome to those who had returned, but he thought it desirable to have a church memorial for the men who had laid down their lives in the great conflict. The war had been a righteous war, and it was fitting that a church memorial should be erected. He had advocated the erection of a cross, but as the public memorial was to take that form, he thought a lych gate would be a very suitable memorial instead. The names of the fallen could be inscribed on tablets placed under the roof of the gate, and the public would always be reminded of their brave deeds.

From 11 to 12 o'clock, to satisfy the claims of the young people, dancing took place; Miss E. Templer, Miss I. Scott, Miss E. Gimson and the Orchestra supplying the music and Mr W. Lewis acting as M.C.

THE CRISIS IN THE NEAR EAST

LOCAL MEN OFFER FREELY. THE LATEST ENLISTMENTS.

Sergt-Major Patchett had a busy time at the Defence Office in Timaru again yesterday, taking the names of volunteers for service, and replying to inquiries by others. The enlistments come from all parts of South Canterbury, and from people in all walks of life. No one under the age of 20 is accepted, and for what is called the general class only single men are accepted. Some South Canterbury men have applied for enrolment at the Christchurch Defence Office. The following are the names of those who enlisted in Timaru yesterday: -

Nurse Fraser.

Goodman, A. C. R.

Cairns, J. W.

Oakey, A. N.

Goodman, C. J. W.

Mitten, J,

Small, T.

Kyne, J. T.

Allfrey, J. C.

Hawke, A. R.

Voss, C. R.

Stewart, J. B.

Dean. F. B.

Lord, T. W.

Blair, A.

Minnis, R.

Stringer, W.

Patterson, J. P.

Wilkinson, J.

Smith, E. C.

Mass, J. J.

Washington, A. C.

Stewart, D. W.

Norton, W. V.

Sutherland, E. B.

Kneale, J. T.

McMurtrie, V. G.

Barker, C. B.

Dougherty, C.

Cairns, R.

Honeyman, G. T.

Gunderson, C. W.

Dunn, M. J.

Jackson, C.

Edyvean, D.

Flaus, E. T. L.

Stowell, F.

Dodd, T.

Wotton, C. H.

Fairbrother, G.

Hilton, F. A.

Stonyer, A.

Hathaway, A.

Hoare, F.

Robertson, J.

McBride, G.

Black, W. E.

Pickering, A. S.

Attewell, T. G.

Bonnett, C. C.

West, S. H. M.

Burgoine, J.

Quantock, R. H.

Mallinson, A.

McCabe, E. J.

King, G. G.

Thompson, C. W.

Murphy, T.

Brett, J. J.

Griffin, C. P.

Bovrell, G. W.

Fleming, A. C.

Fleming. H. J.

Waller, J.

Minnies, J.

Macdonald, W. F.

Cameron, H.

Dougherty, E.

Middleditch, M.

Highet, S. R.

Fisher, C.

McMillan, D.

Dix, G.

Story, L. J. W.

Scrimshaw, E. G.

O'Shea, L. P.

Norton, C. B.

Harris, A.

Smith, S. R. W.

Horne, A.

Maguire, T.

WAIMATE'S RESPONSE.

Lieutenant Clements, who is at present conducting Territorial and Cadet training at Waimate. is still receiving applications for enrolment for service. Several residents here have taken the trouble to go to Timaru to enrol.

Names so far received here are —

Jackson, William Robert.

Davies, Francis Cecil (returned soldier).

White, William (D.C.M.).

Hope, Ernest James.

Nash, Lawrence Cull.

Woodward, Arthur James.

Landrebe, Albert Andrew.

Nicholas, Lancelot Giles.

Hampton, Joseph.

Thomson, William.

Hawkins, Jesse Charles. Kang, Leslie Gordon.

Landrebe, Frederick.

Eade, Thomas Tremagle.

Forsyth, John.

Wilson, Walter.

Hicks, Arthur John.

Lysaght, Harold George.

Bishop, Herbert Samuel.

Crichton, Cecil Adam.

Bohm, James.