

*Timaru Herald*. 11 January 1917 (Papers Past) [29 December 2015]

## 25TH REINFORCEMENTS

### SOUTH CANTERBURY'S QUOTA.

#### YESTERDAY'S SEND-OFF.

Yesterday South Canterbury's quota of the 25th Reinforcements left Timaru by the second express for Trentham. . . . .

#### GERALDINE SEND-OFF.

There was again a large gathering at the Drill Hall, Geraldine, on Tuesday night, to farewell the men from that district who were about to go into training with the Twenty-fifth Reinforcements. The hall was effectively decorated, and after the band had played the National Anthem a programme of musical items and recitations was presented and greeted with much applause.

Maior Kennedy, who presided, asked Messrs Chisnall, W. E. Patrick, W. F. Tiplady and A. W. Walton to ascend the stage, and they were loudly cheered on doing so. Major Kennedy, addressing the men said, on behalf of the town and district, how pleased they all were that they were going forward to do their duty. The district had always kept up its quota, and he hoped it would do so till the last reinforcements were needed. They had had a high standard set them by the British army and the boys who had gone before, but he was confident that they would do their duty and make good, and would come back with the honours of the field. On behalf of the residents he presented to **Tiplady** a wristlet watch. Mrs Hislop, the Mayoress, presented, on behalf of the Home and Empire League, each of the men with a parcel of comforts, addressing to each some kindly remarks.

The chairman expressed the thanks of all present to those who had contributed to the evening's amusement, and after supper a dance was enjoyed by the young people. Yesterday the departing soldiers left Geraldine at 2.30 for Temuka by motor cars, and as they moved off cheers were called for them by the Mayor, Dr. Hislop, and were heartily given by a large number of people who had gathered to see the men off. The men were accompanied by friends and all were kindly entertained at afternoon tea at Temuka.

#### TEMUKA'S FAREWELLS.

The Temuka soldiers of the 25th Reinforcements were entertained in the Drill Hall on Tuesday evening by the Temuka Patriotic Entertainment Committee. Considering the holiday and other attractions the hall was well filled. The Temuka Brass Band played the soldiers through the main street to the hall. As the boys entered they were given an enthusiastic reception.

Mr T. Gunnion presided and in a neat speech said that the boys who were leaving with the 25th Reinforcements from Temuka, were volunteers, but Temuka would give the balloted men the same recognition, as all the boys are going to do their bit. There were more boys in Temuka who were willing to go. Mr Gunnion wished the boys good luck and a safe return.

The programme opened with a duet by Mr and Mrs Chapman, songs by Mr Trott, Mr McGregor, Miss McGregor and Miss B. Cooper, recitations by Miss I. Pratley and Mr McDonald, dance by Miss and Mr Lynch. Mrs L. Talbot. Mrs Chapman, Miss McGregor and A. Cooper acted as accompanists.

During an interval Mrs Aspinall, on behalf of the Temuka Ladies' Red Cross Society, presented each soldier with a hold-all. The Temuka and Geraldine soldiers were accorded a hearty farewell yesterday. Afternoon tea was provided for the men and their relatives in the Drill Hall, and while they were partaking of it addresses were delivered by His Worship the Mayor (Mr A. Frew), Mr T. Gunnion, Major Kennedy and Rev. C. MacDonald.

Mr Gunnion, who was the first speaker, referred to two returned boys whom they were proud to have home again, and extended a hearty welcome to the officers of the Military Board who were present. There were six boys going that day, volunteers from Temuka, going to their duty, and whom they would be proud to welcome home. The Rev. C. MacDonald made a stirring speech, and Major Kennedy and Mr Frew also spoke.

About 4 o'clock the men lined up and a large procession made its way to the railway station to the music of the Temuka Brass Band. The train was an hour and a half late, and the band played selections to pass the time away. As the train steamed out the large crowd which had waited patiently gave three hearty cheers for the departing soldiers.

The following are the names of the men: — Privates R. Morris. A. D. Martin, J. A. Tate, R. G. Collins, T. E. Barker and H. H. Austin, of Temuka; W. F. Patrick, W. F. Tiplady and A. W. Walton, of Geraldine.