

Timaru Herald. 29 May 1917 (Papers Past) [09/01/2015]

30TH REINFORCEMENTS YESTERDAY'S SEND-OFF.

AT TIMARU.

The South Canterbury quota of the 30th Reinforcement consisting of 58 men, left Timaru by the north express yesterday, and were given a very hearty send-off at the Drill Shed, and at the Strathallan Street crossing.

Owing to the new railway time-table the men were assembled at 12.30 at the Drill Shed, and were put through some elementary drill movements by Staff-Sergeant-Major Johnstone. The men appeared in the best of spirits. The draft, facing the balcony, was addressed by the Mayor of Timaru (Mr J. Maling), and by the Rev. J. H. Rogers.

The Mayor told the men that one of the first ordeals they had to go through was to listen to a speech by the Mayor of the town. He felt sorry for them on this account, but it was all a part of the military discipline they had to go through. (Laughter.) Proceeding, Mr Maling referred to a speech in which Mr Lloyd George had said that we were living in one of those rare epochs when within a few fleeting years the destiny and character of the race were being determined for countless ages. Mr Maling said it was to assist in forming that character and making that destiny, that the men before him were going away. There was no question but that they would sustain the high standard of those who had gone before them, and assist in upholding those ideals which in this country of free institutions were held so dear. No country in the world possessed such a free Constitution as New Zealand, and in a spirit of determination to uphold it and all that made life worth living, they were going forth to gain the mastery over the enemy. On this noble mission he wished them luck and a safe return. (Applause and cheers.)

The Rev. J. H. Rogers also spoke spiritedly to "the boys." He told them that they were going to assist the Empire, and that in giving themselves for that purpose they were making a noble gift. They were going to be trained to fight and to conquer. If in the fighting, they should be killed they would die the most glorious death that any man could die. They could take it for certain that the Church would pray for them constantly, and that loving hands would minister to their needs in health and in sickness. In going away they would take with them the love, the care and affection of many who would watch anxiously for news of them, and who would ever be solicitous of their welfare. What did they stand for? They stood for the Cause — the cause of honour, of liberty, and of justice, the protection of the weak. Was there ever a nobler cause or any more nobler principles that a man could fight and if necessary die for? He thought not. Then they should remember that at the back of the Cause was God — the God of liberty, the God of mercy, and the God of justice. When they had left these shores he would like them to remember the words of an old man when he asked them to live for the Cause as well as be prepared to die for it. He would ask them to be men of absolute honour, of tenderness, and men with sympathy for the weak, men who would show what truer liberty meant — the liberty of those who could control and quit themselves as men. He would also ask them to think, even if they did not say it aloud, that they were soldiers of God, and that He trusted and cared for them. If they went in this spirit all would be proud of them, and God would protect them in life and in death, and when they returned they would be justly proud of having stuck to the Cause and helped it to conquer (Applause, followed by cheers for the speaker.)

After the addresses the men were marched outside and were photographed by Mr Milne Allan. Then, headed by the 2nd (S.C.) Regimental Band under Conductor Schnack, the column moved off to the station. A large number of people lined the route and gave the men rousing cheers as they passed. At the crossing there were more people than there have been at the send-offs for some time, and in spite of a half-hour wait in the cold they gave the men a very cordial farewell,

the train steaming out followed by the cheers of the crowd, and the answering shouts of the departing soldiers.

A large number of men joined the train at Temuka and Ashburton, and there were eleven men on the express when it arrived, they having come from Waimate.

The recruits were in charge of Captain Chapman and Sergeant Major Thatcher, who will accompany them to Trentham.

The following are the names of the 21 who joined the train at Temuka: - [sic]

Aitken, J. P., Ablett, F. G., Allfrey, J. C., Armstrong, A. J., Aldridge, A. E., Billings, P., Bartrum, O. B., Bennewith, G. J., Bowring, C. A., Bonnington, R. C., Bennett, G. W., Boyd, P. H., Bowkett, J. C., Batchelor, J. M., Bate, L. F., Buchanan, F. W. Junr., Bell, G. E., Black L. S., Bell, G. A., Baker, L. J.

Crawford, W. J., Coulbeck, W., Crocome, A. J., Cormack, A. L., Childs, E. Carver, J. F. F., Clarke S., Collins, H., Cairns, W.

Dawson, D., Dolan, W. P., Davison, K. R., Dallard E. E., Dunn, A., Dyson, C. F., Dunneen, G. H.

Elliott, G. M., Elsom, W. J.

Fifield, F., Forrest, R. H., Finch T. H., Fahey A. C., Freak, D. E.

Gill, M. D., Graham, J., Griffiths, M. T. W., Gillespie, E. B.

Harrison, T., Holmes, R., Hedges, W., Harris, J., Howard, J. L., Henderson, J., Hawkins, R., Hyndman, W., Hill, J. G., Hoskin, C. L.

Jack, H. F.

Kirk, O. J., King, J., Kirby M., Knowles, G., Kennard, D. McN.

Lyons, T. Junr., Laurenson T. P., Loach, T. V.

Martin. F. D., Milne T., Moore, W. G., Muller, O. M.

McKenzie, R., McBride, A., McDouough, M., McPhedran, W. N., McLaughran, A. W.,

McKay. J., McKeever, W. B., McCallum, D. G.

Neill, D. W. J., Nelson, R., Nolan, J. J., Nicholas, A. D., Needham, L.

O'Sullivan, P.

Pinkerton, R., Prendergast, E., Purdom F. H., Pearce, F. W., Powell, T. A., Parsons, J. W. M.

Rees, D. H., Rosengrave, J., Reith J. I., Rolls, G. W., Robinson, W.

Soal, G. C, Shackleton, A. J., St John, P., Stewart, J. D, Sheehan, M. B., Stamp, T. R.,

Sercombe, F. W., Sellars, F. A., Scollard. G., Simpson A., Sutton, A. E., Spring, F., Scott, J. E., Smyth, J.

Tanner, W. J., Telford, J., Thew, C. T., Thomas, F.

Watson, F. W. M., Wilson, M. J. Wade, R. N., Watson, J., Williams, M., Wright, J. T.

Young, J.