

SEND-OFF TO REINFORCEMENTS.

AT GERALDINE DRILL HALL.

A hearty send-off was given to the Geraldine district recruits on Saturday evening, the hall being filled with a most enthusiastic gathering, albeit the entertainment had arranged at short notice. Major J. Kennedy presided. The Geraldine Brass Band played several selections prior to the opening of the function.

Major J. Kennedy explained in a few opening remarks that the arrangements for the send-off had been altered three times - first the men were to go away on Wednesday, then Tuesday, and finally on Monday. They had had to have the function that night at very short notice, but he hoped that their enthusiasm would not be dampened on that account.

THE CONCERT.

Mr Knibb opened the concert by ringing two songs, in good voice, the second to an insistent recall. Miss Beattie was the next singer. She met with a cordial reception, and sang two popular songs. Mr Bruce Logan made a very able first appearance at these functions, his fine baritone voice being heard to good advantage. A recall was inevitable, and Mr Logan was quite as successful in his second song. Little Miss Chapman, who sang so nicely at the last send-off, sang the next song, and it need only be said that the little lady again found favour with the audience, and increased her popularity by the manner she acquitted herself. The Brass Band gave the next item in its well known style. The Misses Sherratt next played a duet, some Scotch melodies, with variations, which proved very acceptable. They responded to an encore, and again treated the audience to some sparkling music. Miss Beattie and Miss Campbell sang a duet, their voices blending harmoniously together. They also responded to a well deserved encore. Mr Knibb again obliged, and then Miss Chapman gave a recitation, "The Phenominal Baby," which caused great amusement. Mr Ashwell gave a recitation, in costume, "A Country Curate," which caused roars of laughter, and this brought the concert to a termination.

THE PRESENTATIONS

Major Kennedy then asked the recruits, Privates R. Ashwell, S. Brophy, and S. McCaughan, who were the only ones present, to mount the platform.

Major Kennedy said that Private Ashwell was the only Geraldine man present, though there were eleven men going forward with the draft, most of the others spending their last evening with their friends. The two other Geraldine men were Private A. R. Bruce, who was at Auckland, and Private F. A. R. Brown, who was at his home. The three men on the platform were, however, a very good sample to represent the draft. Turning to Private Ashwell, Major Kennedy said that he had great pleasure, on behalf of the citizens of Geraldine, in presenting him with a wristlet watch, in appreciation of the manner in which he had acted in taking up the duties of a soldier to help to defend his country, he hoped he would have as many opportunities of helping to keep his comrades alive, as he had as a County Curate. (Laughter and applause.) The President of the Home and Empire League (Mrs Hislop) then presented each soldier with a parcel of comforts, shaking hands with each man, and wishing him a successful career and a safe return.

The Band struck up "Soldiers of the King," and the men were heartily cheered as they resumed their places.

Major Kennedy announced that the Temuka Patriotic Committee had invited the Geraldine men and friends to lunch at Temuka on Monday, and that cars would be available to take the men down.

The names of the eleven district men going with the draft are as follows:

Private R. Ashwell.

Private. **S. Brophy.**

Private. S. McCaughan.
Private F. A. R. Brown.
Private A. R. Bruce.
Private A. J. Hopping.
Private E. Maxwell,
Private T. C. Warne,
Private W. M. Buckley,
Private E. W. Farmer.
Private J. Rutherford, junr.

At the close of the proceedings the Band played the National Anthem. Supper was then served by the ladies to soldiers, their personal friends and the performers, and an enjoyable dance wound up a very pleasant evening.

LUNCHEON AND SEND-OFF AT TEMUKA.

Yesterday the Temuka and Geraldine men who are to join the 29th Reinforcements were entertained at luncheon by the Ladies' Patriotic Committee. Tables were laid for about 100 visitors, and nearly that number partook of the hospitality of the ladies. While the luncheon was in progress, Miss E. Twomey entertained the company with some delightful musical selections. Speeches were made by Mr Gunnion (Chairman of the Patriotic Entertainment Committee), the Rev. C. Macdonald, Major Kennedy, and the Mayor (Mr Frew).

After the luncheon the usual procession was formed, and headed by the Brass and Pipe Bands, the men were marched to the railway station, where a large crowd had assembled. Here speeches were made by Mr C. J. Talbot, the Mayor, and Mr Gunnion, and the men were cheered again and again. The send-off was a very enthusiastic one.

The following are the names of the men forming the draft of the Temuka and Geraldine men:
INFANTRY.

Thomas Fitzgerald.
A. J. Harrison.
A. Harrison.
A. J. Hopping.
J. Hill.
J. Lee.
J. S. Lee.
S. McCaughan.
E. Maxwell.
E. W. Palmer.
J. Rutherford, junr.
D. W. Tooley,
M. Tangey.
T. C. Warne.

ARTILLERY.

W. R. Ashwell.

MOUNTED FORCE.

S. D. Baxter.

S. Brophy.

W. M. Buckley.
A. R. Bruce.

MEDICAL CORPS.

F. A. R. Brown.

Captain Chapman was in charge of the men.
Our report will appear in our next issue.

Temuka Leader. 3 May 1917 (Papers Past)

29th REINFORCEMENTS.

LUNCHEON AND SEND-OFF AT TEMUKA.

Owing to the action of the Defence Department in requiring the men for the 29th Reinforcements to go into camp on Monday — two days sooner than usual — the usual evening send-off in the Drill Shed had to be abandoned. Had notification of the change been sent earlier the Patriotic Entertainment Committee could have arranged an entertainment for Friday or Saturday evenings, but under all the circumstances this was not possible, and it was decided to entertain the boys and their friends at luncheon before they marched to the Railway Station on Monday. The Ladies Committee was approached, and they at once signified their willingness to provide whatever was required for the departing soldiers, their relatives, and friends. The weather was fine, with a bracing breeze, and the hall presented a very pleasing appearance. At noon on Monday, when the guests assembled, the ladies had been busy, and tables were laid for a three course luncheon for about 100 guests. Great pains had been taken with the arrangement of the tables, which were loaded with appetising viands, and adorned with flowers. The luncheon did them infinite credit.

Among the guests were Mr C. J. Talbot, M.P., Mr A. Frew (Mayor), Major Kennedy, Captain Chapman, Revs. A. H. Norris, C. Macdonald, and J. W. Griffin, Captain Hawkes, Dr. Rugg (President of the Temuka Branch of the Red Cross Society), Miss Phillips (Secretary of the local Branch of the Navy League), Mr. C. W. S. Cox and Mr F. V. Lysaght (Geraldine).

Mr Gunman, Chairman of the Patriotic Entertainment Committee, extended to all Temuka's warmest welcomes, after which grace was said by the Rev. C. Macdonald.

Full justice was then done to the good things provided, delightful music being provided by Miss E. Twomey while the luncheon was in progress.

The Chairman announced that apologies had been received from the Mayor of Geraldine, the Rev. Father Kerley, and Mr G. W. Armitage (representing the War Relief Society). He went on to explain how it was that the evening function had to be abandoned, and said how pleased Temuka was to have the Geraldine boys and their friends present. Temuka and Geraldine were sending away their full quotas, and the districts could well be proud to still have men able and willing to do what is required. He then asked the Rev. Mr Macdonald to address the gathering. The Rev. C. Macdonald, who was received with applause, said he was exceedingly pleased to be present to speak a few words of encouragement to the men who were going away, it was very little that those who stayed behind could do for them, but they wanted to do their best. He was pleased to see the very good news contained in that morning's newspaper. He was pleased to see that things were going well with Britain and her Allies, and he was particularly pleased with the statement of Mr Lloyd George, that since June, 1915, not a single British gun had been captured by the enemy, and that for every British prisoner that had been taken by the enemy, ten German prisoners had been taken. (Applause.) It might not mean much when they read that this or that little village was taken, but when they were told authoritatively that guns had been taken by the hundred and prisoners by the thousand they knew that things were moving in the right direction. (Applause.) They might be asked if things are going so well, why they should send away more Reinforcements. They had to send them away for several reasons, but chiefly for two reasons. In the first place the British Government was not going to take any more risks. Far too many had been taken already, and they were going to make sure that they had enough men to settle the arch-traitor, who had caused the trouble. There was another reason why New

Zealand was going to send Reinforcements as long as needed. We were not going to leave our boys at the front in the lurch as the Australians had done. If he was an Australian he would blush, and he was sure that for years to come decent-minded Australians would blush, that their men who had done so well were not supported. We had recently been told that the Australians had had to be taken out of the firing line because there were not men to fill up the breaches in their ranks. In the fighting that is to come New Zealanders will be there. They were not going to leave in the lurch the New Zealanders who are in the trenches. Digressing for a moment from the theme the speaker said he could not understand why any men should be allowed to hamper the Government in carrying out the law. They ought not to be allowed to do it. He would give a piece of advice, and their member, who was present, could pass it on to the Government. They should see that these men had an interview with the old lady that uses nine tongues at once — in other words, a taste of the cat-of-nine-tails. Speaking to the men who were leaving, the rev. gentleman said they were going away on a great enterprise, to fight for their King and country. He knew they would do their duty, and behave themselves, and he asked the Lord to bless them, and bring them back safely. (Applause.)

In endorsing the Rev. Mr Macdonald's remarks, the chairman said he had thought it was a pity that the protection of the British Navy could not be withdrawn from Australia for a time. It would only be what some of the people deserved.

Major Kennedy said he wished to thank the ladies of Temuka once more for their gracious hospitality to the Geraldine visitors. They had often entertained them to afternoon tea, and now they had excelled themselves, and given all a first-class luncheon. He thanked them most heartily, and expressed the hope that at some future time the Geraldine ladies would have the opportunity of entertaining the Temuka ladies and gentlemen in the same way. At the Major's request the Geraldine visitors rose and gave the Temuka people three hearty cheers.

The Mayor (Mr Frew), on behalf of the ladies, acknowledged the kind words of Major Kennedy. As all knew, they always did well in anything they undertook, and the gentlemen of Temuka were very much indebted to the ladies who are always ready to do whatever is required for the entertainment of the soldiers and visitors. He did not know what they would do without them. They were really grand workers, and did with enthusiasm anything they were asked to do. He was pleased indeed to acknowledge the compliment paid to the ladies of Temuka.

Mrs Aspinall (President of the Ladies' Entertainment Committee) then pinned the badges on to the coats of the young soldiers, and the proceedings terminated with the National Anthem.

The soldiers were then marched outside the hall, where Sergt.-Major Lorrimer called the roll, after which a procession was formed, and headed by the Brass and Pipe Bands marched to the railway station. The procession was quite a large one, and at the station a large crowd assembled to see them away.

While waiting for the train several more little speeches were made. Mr Gunnion said they were sending away some of the finest boys they had yet sent. They were going away to uphold the honour of their towns and country, and those they left behind were proud of them. He hoped they would not see any fighting, but if they did he knew they would quit themselves as they ought. When they came back they would be heartily welcomed. New Zealand ought to be proud, for they were told in the morning's papers that America, the most democratic country in the world, had adopted conscription to carry on the war, the same as New Zealand had already done. He called for cheers for the boys who were going away.

Mr Talbot commenced by complimenting the Patriotic Committee on the practical way in which they had met the difficulties that had arisen in the way of entertaining the men before they went away. It was evident they could rise to any emergency, and it was the same with the whole British nation. At the beginning of the war they were caught napping. Yet they had pulled themselves together, and made one of the very best armies in the world. (Applause.) The men who were going away were going to be part of that army. Those who had gone before had

proved that they were equal to the best troops in the world. He knew that those who were going that day would quit themselves as well as any who had gone before. They had the satisfaction of knowing that they had the whole of the country behind them. The recent municipal elections had proved that clearly enough and showed that the people were fully prepared to see the war through. Those they were leaving would miss them, they would be always in their minds, and their doings would cause feelings of pride as long as we are a people. He wished them every success, and knowing that they would do their part, with the utmost bravery, wished them "God speed." (Applause.)

The Mayor said although we were proud to see the boys going away we would be still more glad to see them coming back after vanquishing the foe. They would have a great deal to do, and they knew what was in front of them. He referred to the words of Lloyd-George, that the efforts of the enemy only served to bring out the "grit" of the country. That was true of New Zealand soldiers. The harder the task the more determined they were to overcome it. (Applause.) It was good to hear that the balance of power was on the Allies' side. He referred with satisfaction to America joining the Allies, and said with her help the submarine menace should be soon mastered. In conclusion, he said he was proud to see the boys going away to help those who had gone before, and assured them of a hearty welcome on their return.

At the Mayor's call more cheers were given for the boys.

Major Kennedy said the Geraldine boys were glad to come and join those from Temuka. The lads were going away to do their duty, as others had done. He gave them a few kindly words of counsel regarding "discipline." The men who had gone had been a credit to their country, and to the men who had trained them. He wished them not to forget, however, that while they were part of the British Army they were also New Zealanders, and that they were fighting against a tyrannous nation. He assured them of a hearty welcome on their return. (Applause.) The men then said good-bye to their friends, and as the train steamed away they were cheered, again and again.

The South Canterbury men were in the charge of Captain Chapman.

Following are the Temuka and Geraldine men:

INFANTRY.

Thomas Fitzgerald.

A. J. Harrison.

A. Harrison.

A. J. Hopping,

J. Hill.

J. Lee.

J. S. Lee.

S. McCaughan.

E. Maxwell.

E. W. Palmer.

J. Rutherford, junr.

D. W. Tooley.

M. Tangney.

T. C. Warne.

ARTILLERY.

W. R. Ashwell.

MOUNTED FORCE.

S. D. Baxter.

S. Brophy.

W. M. Buckley.

A. R. Bruce.

MEDICAL CORPS.
F. A. R. Brown.

Temuka Leader. 6 September 1917 (Papers Past) [19/12/2018]

DISTRICT NEWS.

A SOLDIER'S FAREWELL. AT PLEASANT VALLEY.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

A very successful farewell social was held in the Pleasant Valley schoolroom on Wednesday evening last, August 29th, to do honour to Trooper Simon Brophy, who was home on final leave, and who is in the 30th Reinforcements. The gathering was one of the largest ever seen in the schoolroom for some time, thirty couples being present. Mr E. Murphy, senr., occupied the chair, and made a stirring speech, after which he made the presentation to the guest of the evening. This consisted of a money belt and illuminated wristlet watch, suitably inscribed. Mr Murphy spoke of the high esteem in which the family are held throughout the district, and hoped that Trooper Brophy would return to the district covered with honours, and he promised him a better welcome home than the farewell. He then wished the soldier a safe journey and a safe return.

Mr Vucetich said that he was pleased to see such a large number present in the schoolroom. Trooper Brophy was the last man taken by the First Division in Pleasant Valley. He hoped that Trooper Brophy would have good luck, and return safely, with all those who have left this district.

Mr J. Cragg and Mr J. Lysaght also spoke, wishing the departing soldier the best of luck, and a safe return to the district.

Trooper Simon Brophy replied, thanking the people of Pleasant Valley for the handsome presents they had given him; and that he hoped to see a large crowd in the schoolroom when he returned home to the district. (Applause.)

Miss Mary Lysaght, of Orari Gorge, then buckled the watch on to the soldier's wrist, amidst loud applause.

"For he's a jolly good fellow" was heartily sung by all, Miss Prisk playing the accompaniment. The National Anthem was sung, and three cheers were given for the soldier, and three more for our brave boys at the front.

Dancing was then indulged in. Excellent dance music was supplied by Mr C. Gregan (Temuka) throughout the evening. Mr F. J. Woods (Geraldine) acted as M.C. efficiently, and kept things going merrily. Extra dance music was contributed by Misses E. Quaid, J. Patrick, O. Prisk. During the evening several well rendered songs were contributed by Messrs S. Heyder, K. Quaid, senr., T. Bryson, M. Brophy, Miss K. Lysaght, and Mrs D. O'Brien, all the performers being applauded. A most excellent supper was provided by the ladies of the district, and was done full justice to by all. The schoolroom was decorated with flags. A Highland Fling was given by the dancers, accompanied on the pipes played by Mr Norman Green, of Hilton. There were visitors from Geraldine, Hilton, Woodbury, Beautiful Valley, Pleasant Point, Temuka, and Orari Gorge. Miss O. Prisk (Gapes Valley) and Miss M. Lysaght (Orari Gorge) played the accompaniments to the songs. Private J. Lyons, of the 30th Reinforcements, was present. Apologies were sent to the chairman from Messrs T. Paterson, J. Gregan, and W. Hawke, who were unable to attend the social. A most enjoyable and successful evening was brought to a close with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," at a late hour of the morning.

Timaru Herald. 6 September 1917 (Papers Past) [09/04/2025]

SOLDIERS FAREWELLED

A PLEASANT VALLEY MAN.

A very successful farewell social was held in the Pleasant Valley schoolroom last week to do honour to Trooper Simon Brophy, of the 30ths, who was home on final leave. The gathering was one of the largest seen in the school-room for some time, thirty couples being present. Mr E. Murphy, chairman of the patriotic committee, occupied the chair. He made a stirring speech on the war and then spoke of the high esteem in which the Brophy family were held throughout the district. and said he hoped that Trooper Brophy would return to the district covered with honours, and he promised him a welcome home more hearty than his farewell. He then presented Trooper Brophy with a money belt and illuminated wristlet watch suitably inscribed as a gift from his Valley friends. The chairman said that Trooper Brophy was the last young and single man belonging to the First Division in Pleasant Valley. He hoped that he would have good luck, and would come back safe with all others who had left this district. So far, he was also glad to say, there had been no Pleasant Valley man killed or wounded.

Mr G. Lysaght, a schoolmate years ago and a friend ever since, and Messrs J. Craig and H. Hill also spoke.

Troop Brophy thanked his friends for their presents and good wishes, and o..... for a volunteer for the duty. Miss Mary Lysaght, of Orari Gorge, stepped up and buckled on the watch, and "He's a jolly good fellow" and "God Save the King" and cheering concluded the ceremonial part of the evening.

Dancing, interspersed with songs and instrumental selections, with an interlude for supper, filled in the rest of the evening. Visitors were present from Geraldine and other districts. The evening was much enjoyed, and "Auld Lang Syne" was not sung till the "small hours" were well past.

Manawatu Standard. 30 August 1929 (Papers Past) [05/01/2020]

REMAND GRANTED.

CHARGE AGAINST LABOURER.

An application was made by Senior-Sergeant Whitehouse for a remand when Simon Brophy, a labourer, aged 37, appeared before Mr J. L. Stout, S.M., in the Magistrate's Court this morning charged with being an idle and disorderly person, with insufficient lawful visible means of support.

"This man has been here for two days and has been acting in a very strange manner," stated Senior-Sergeant Whitehouse, and I ask that he be remanded until Wednesday next for observation and further inquiries. His Worship accordingly granted the remand.

Manawatu Standard. 4 September 1929 (Papers Past) [05/01/2020]

"A HARD CASE."

IDLE AND DISORDERLY CHARGE

MAGISTRATE'S COMMENTS.

"This appears to be one of those 'hard cases' met with and I don't want to lock the man up if he can get work," observed Mr J. L. Stout, S.M., in the Magistrate's Court, this morning, when

convicting and discharging Simon Brophy, a labourer, aged 37, on a charge of being idle and disorderly and with having no lawful visible means of support.

Pleading not guilty to being without support, accused said that he had been drinking for a few days and, when looking for work, had come past the police station. He had called in to see if the police knew of any work he might be able to do, "but," added Brophy, "they put me in for the night."

Constable Beaton stated that Brophy was raving in a drunken condition when he had gone into the station. He had had no money or anywhere to go and was detained. He had been sleeping in a shed.

Senior-Sergeant Whitehouse said that inquiries showed that accused had been doing casual work in the Waipukurau district and that he was a returned soldier said to be suffering from shell shock.

The Magistrate: Can't he get work?

"There doesn't seem much chance of his getting a job about here," answered the senior-sergeant.

"But cannot the Returned Soldiers' Association do something for him?" queried the Magistrate. Asked if he had his army discharge, accused said that it was in Timaru.

The Magistrate: It seems that his being out of work is his worst fault. The senior-sergeant said that, in the condition in which Brophy had come to the police station, there had been no option but to detain him. He had two previous convictions, one for being drunk and causing wilful damage and one for using obscene language.

The Magistrate then took the action as stated.

Manawatu Times. 5 September 1929 (Papers Past) [2025]

OUT OF WORK RETURNED SOLDIER IN TROUBLE

A Difficult Case

SUFFERING FROM EFFECTS OF SHELL-SHOCK

When Simon Brophy, with a few too many drinks inside him, elected to visit the Palmerston North police station in search of work, he did not show that nice discrimination which should distinguish one in search of a job.

Far from finding work, he was locked up and placed under medical observation by the police. Yesterday morning, Brophy made an appearance in the Magistrate's Court when he was charged with being an idle and disorderly person, in that he had insufficient means of support. The case was described as a difficult one by the Magistrate when he was informed that Brophy was a returned soldier, out of work, and suffering from the effects of shell-shock. Brophy stated that he was not guilty of having insufficient means of support. He had been looking for a job in Palmerston North and as a result of having a few drinks, had not been feeling well. He had gone round to the police station looking for a position, but had been locked up for the night.

Constable Beaton in the box stated that Brophy had come into the station in an intoxicated condition and raving. It was considered unsafe to let him go and he had been locked up. His description corresponded with that of a man who had caused alarm by sitting for four hours outside a house without moving, and he had therefore been put under observation.

Senior Sergeant Whitehouse stated that the doctors would not commit Brophy, as a result of the observation. He had been doing casual work around Waipukurau before he had come to Palmerston North.

The Magistrate: Can't we get him some work?

The Senior Sergeant: I am afraid there is not much chance here, sir. The man is destitute.

Accused: I will try to get work if I am let go.

Asked whether he had applied to the R.S.A. for relief, Brophy stated that he had not yet done so. He was not sure where he could locate his discharge papers.

The Magistrate: After all, his worst fault appears to be that he is out of work.

The Senior Sergeant: We had no option but to arrest him when he came into the station. He was in such a condition, that we could not let him go.

The Magistrate: It is a very hard case. I do not want to lock him up. He will be convicted and discharged.

Press. 9 April 1934 (Papers Past) [05/01/2020]

DEATH FROM THROAT WOUND

INQUEST HELD AT HOSPITAL

Simeon Brophy, aged 41, who was found in a small room adjoining the bar at the Royal Hotel with his throat cut and a razor lying beside him on Friday, died in the Public Hospital on Saturday evening. An inquest was held at the hospital yesterday afternoon before the coroner, Mr H. A. Young, and a verdict returned that Brophy died from a wound self-inflicted, while suffering from epileptic fits. Brophy's last address was the Public Works Department camp at Lake Sumner.

Constable L. P. Ricketts conducted proceedings for the police.

Joseph Brophy, a brother, gave evidence of identification, and stated that it was two years since he had last seen Simeon Brophy. His brother had suffered from loss of memory and epileptic fits since his return from the war. Witness could not suggest any reason for his brother's action, other than a deep depression caused by fits.

Operation Performed

Charles Henry Marshall, of Argus street, Sydenham, said he saw Brophy about 4.30 p.m. on Friday in the Royal Hotel bar. Witness heard the sound of some one falling in the bar and he went round and saw Brophy lying on the floor. Later witness saw that Brophy had a razor in his hand. His throat was cut. The ambulance was called and Brophy was taken to hospital.

Dr. F. A. Craig, a house surgeon at the Public Hospital, said she saw Brophy on his admission to the ward on Friday. He was semi-conscious, suffering from severe shock, and a wound across the throat. An operation was performed next morning on his neck. He did not rally, and died early that morning from shock, which had followed injuries to the throat.

Martin Harrison, barman at the Royal Hotel, said he did not know Brophy, and did not notice him in the bar, or serve him with liquor on Friday. Witness was not in the portion of the bar where Brophy fell, but he heard the fall.

Constable Ricketts gave evidence of his visit to the Royal Hotel, in company with another constable, when Brophy was being attended to by nurses of the St. John Ambulance. On the following day witness was informed at the hospital that Brophy had been treated several times for epileptic fits, and that he had at 2 p.m. on Friday procured tablets for the prevention of fits. Papers witness found on Brophy indicated that his last address had been the Public Works Department camp at Lake Sumner road.

A verdict was returned that Brophy died at 8 p.m. on Saturday from a wound self-inflicted on April 6 while suffering from epilepsy.