

**OFF TO CAMP.
TWENTY-FOURTHS GO AWAY.
VOLUNTEERS AND BALLOTTED MEN.
AN ORDERLY COMPANY.**

The general verdict on the men who left Christchurch last night as the Canterbury quota of the Twenty-fourth Reinforcements was that they were a very well set-up type of men. The draft was notable in that it included a number of balloted men, but there was no means of identifying, and nobody wished to do so. There was a feeling, happily voiced by Colonel Chaffey in addressing the men, that they were all good soldiers, and that no distinctions were to be made between them. As a matter of fact, out of the Christchurch men on parade ninety were volunteers, forty were balloted and four were taken under Section 35 of the Act.

The Christchurch and North Canterbury men were mustered promptly at six o'clock at the barracks by Captains Northcote and Attwell. There were no defaulters in the North Canterbury draft of eighty-two men, and only five men failed to answer their names out of the 149 Christchurch men, and it was expected that they would fall in on the way. But the Christchurch draft went away seventy-four short of the quota, the reason being that insufficient men had been called up at the beginning. It was also accounted for, no doubt, by the fact that it did not include many Christchurch men who had appealed from the first ballot, as most of the appeals have yet to be heard. It was the quietest send-off on record, the men being very orderly. Details of the draft are as follows: —

CHRISTCHURCH AREA.
Non-commissioned officers.

For Featherston Camp — Mounted Rifles:

For Trenthani Camp — Infantry:

For Awapuni Camp — Ambulance:

MOUNTED RIFLES.
Featherston Camp.

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INFANTRY.
Featherston Camp.

A. E. Allen, C. E. Anderson.

S. L. Button, H. J. Brunt, T. A. Berry, W. P. Bunton, C. B. Bowden, **T. E. Brosnahan**, W. C. Bergamini,, T. Vincent,

UNITS FROM OTHER GROUPS ATTACHED TO DRAFT.

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AMBULANCE.
Awapuni Camp.

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The draft went up under Lieutenants Livingstone and Brown and Sergeant-Major Rich.

NORTH CANTERBURY AREA.

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THE COLONEL'S SEND-OFF.

“Well, men of the Twenty-fourth,” said Colonel Chaffey before the column left the Barracks,” it is my prerogative to see you before you go, and see that you are fit. We never sent away a draft that was not a credit to Christchurch and the province, and I hope you will make yourselves equal to those in front of you. The same spirit is in you. Many of those going now

are giving up far more than a great many of those who have gone in front. You are making sacrifices, but, Lord bless us, what a grand thing it is to make the sacrifice. We who are left behind would give anything to be with you. The men who have gone before absolutely did their duty, and turned out as good soldiers as the Empire could produce. They had a lot of hard graft to make themselves fit, and you must do the same, because it is no picnic you are going to, and you must make yourselves fit to do your best, for the boys you are going to reinforce.

“Some of you have been balloted and some have volunteered, the Colonel continued, “but we take no notice of that now. We are all soldiers, and I feel quite confident you will do your duty honestly. The best of luck to you, and I hope to see you again in uniform looking very different from what you are now.”

The Colonel’s sporting speech and manner struck a happy chord in the men, who applauded him in a manner that spoke well for the esprit de corps of the Twenty-fourths. The men lifted their bundles and marched out into Cashel Street. The C.Y.C. Band struck a martial note, and the men swung along Cashel Street and off to the station, with many a cheer and a handshake, and before long were on their way through to Lyttelton.

Press. 1 September 1982 (Papers Past) [04/05/2023]

Two team survivors

One of the last three links with the great Christchurch Marist Brothers senior rugby team of the early 1920s died this week in Wellington.

Ted Brosnahan, who was 89, was full-back for that mighty side — a solid, reliable defender with a mighty kick which belied his 65kg, much in the mould of the man who followed him in the green and white 30 years later, Kevin Stuart.

In common with many outstanding players in those days of first-class matches few and far between, Brosnahan had only three representative matches. All were in 1919 — both Canterbury’s games against Wellington and for the South Island against the North.

He was also an obdurate batsman for East Christchurch, with a senior career stretching over 20 years, from 1915 to 1935. In those 151 matches, then a record for East, he scored 4152 runs at an average of 20.6, and hit three centuries.

His eight first-class games brought him 281 runs at a similar average, with his best performance in his first match, at Hagley Oval against Otago. Going in at No. 3, Brosnahan batted nearly four hours for an unbeaten 73.

There are now only two survivors of the great Marist rugby team, Harry Mullins and Bert Blazey.

Press. 3 September 1982 (Papers Past) [04/05/2023]

SIDELINES

TED BROSNAHAN, the cricketer-rugby player whose death at the age of 89 was noted in our columns this week, has another sporting claim to fame. In common with virtually all his Marist rugby club-mates in 1923, he switched to rugby league and earned representative honours in that code as well. He was full-back for South in the very first of interisland games, in 1925, when North won, 27-9; and for Canterbury against two outstanding touring teams. Canterbury lost, 47-10, to the 1924 Great Britain side; and 57-17 and 58-10 to the mighty 1925 Queensland team.