SERVING THEIR COUNTRY.

7th REINFORCEMENTS. DISTRICTS' QUOTA LEAVE.

The men from the Palmerston North district who are to leave with the 7th Reinforcements of the New Zealand Expeditionary Forces entrained for Trentham to-day. They were a fine, sturdy lot and well up to the high standard of physique of the men of previous reinforcements. There was no public send-off, but a number of citizens were present at the Defence Headquarters as the men were assembled.

Captain Coldinigham addressed a few words to the men, wishing them good luck. "It makes one feel proud to see ... boys of Palmerston North and district going away to fight for the Empire in an unknown land." said Mr D. Buick, M.P. He reminded the men that they were not going away for a picnic, but to fight - and the men knew that. He was pleased to see that the pluck of their ancestors was inherent in the men. Much as he would like to be one of them he was over the age, though he had joined the National Reserve. "You are going away to fight for the British Empire in the great cause of liberty, for we don't want the military state in New Zealand. We wish you good luck, and hope to welcome you on your return," concluded Mr Buick.

Spirited cheers were given for Mr Buick by the recruits, and the compliment was returned to the men by the citizens.

The quota then marched to the station and left by the Main Trunk express for Wellington en route to Trentham.

The names of those who left for the camp this morning are as follows:

Infantry. A. Allan, E. J. Adam, G. Brown,

Mounted.....

Manawatu Times. 15 June 1915 (Papers Past) [29/12/2024]

SEVENTH REINFORCEMENTS.

Palmerston North's quota of the Seventh Reinforcements left yesterday. There was a good attendance of the public at the Defence Office to bid them farewell, and the men were addressed by Captain Goldingham and Mr D. Buick, M.P.

Captain Goldingham, in speaking on behalf of the Recruiting Committee, regretted that owing to short notice the Palmerston N. Band were unable to be present. He hoped that they would not think for a moment that there was any cooling off, because this was not so. The committee were proud of the men that were going, and there would be no slackening off on their part in doing the work where their services were required.

Mr Buick assured the men that they were going to no picnic. They were going to fight for their Empire in an unknown land. He wished them good luck and hoped to welcome them on their return. Mr Buick was heartily cheered, as also were the recruits.

At Captain Goldingham's suggestion the men sang "Tipperary" on their way down to the station. A large crowd were assembled on the railway platform and the men were given a most hearty send-off.

Among those who went way were the following: —
Infantry: A Allen [sic], E J Adam, G Brown,
Mounted:

WELCOMED HOME.

AT TEMUKA.

One of the largest crowds yet seen in Temuka assembled at the railway station yesterday to welcome home five more returned soldiers, invalided home from the war. The Mayor and Mr T. Gunnion, who had gone up to Lyttelton to meet returning friends, travelled with the men to Temuka. Cars were in readiness for the soldiers and their relatives, and headed by the Temuka Pipe Band they marched to the Post Office, where Mr T. Gunnion, on behalf of the Temuka Patriotic Entertainment Committee extended a hearty welcome to the soldiers, and the Mayor added felicitations on behalf of the townspeople.

Private McKinley, on behalf of his comrades and himself, returned thanks for the great reception they had been accorded, and on the call of Mr Gunnion three hearty cheers were given for the soldiers.

The following are the men who returned: -

Rifleman L. A. Nicholas, wounded, chest.

Private W. Scott, wound in leg.

Private McKinley, wounded three times.

Private Cliff, wounded in shoulder and face.

Private Allan, suffering from rheumatism.

Temuka Leader. 10 January 1918 (Papers Past) [27/12/2024]

WELCOME HOME.

TO FIVE RETURNED SOLDIERS

Five more of our soldiers, who have been serving their country, and been invalided home, arrived at Temuka by the express train from Christchurch on Tuesday afternoon, and were given a very hearty welcome. They were accompanied from Lyttelton by the Mayor and Mr Gunnion; who had gone north to meet relatives among the men. Their names are Private A. Allan (Rangitira Valley), Private G. B. Cliff (Winchester), Private R. McKinlay (Temuka), Private L. A. Nicholas (Temuka), Private W. B. Scott (Winchester). The railway station was thronged with people, and after the men bad been greeted by their friends, Mr Gunnion addressed to them a few words of welcome. Two of the men (Privates Scott and Nicholas) were members of the Pipe Band, and there was a strong [muster] of the remaining members. As the train came in the Band played a welcoming air. Immediately the train had left the station the men and their relatives entered motor cars and, preceded by the Pipe Band, under Drum-Major Edgar, were driven to the P. O., where there must have been nearly a thousand people assembled to meet and greet them.

Mr Gunnion said he was very glad to see such a large gathering to welcome the boys home. On behalf of the Temuka Patriotic Entertainment Committee he thanked the boys for what they had done for Temuka in particular and the Empire generally. They had done their part nobly and well, and all were proud of them. While he was at Lyttelton he met a stranger, who had remarked to him when told who he (the speaker) was, that he had no need to be ashamed of being a New Zealander, and he was not — he was proud of it. He again thanked the returned soldiers on behalf pf the people of Temuka. They were glad to have them back. — (Applause.) At the call of Mr Gunnion three hearty cheers were given for the Returned soldiers.

The Mayor (Mr A. Frew) said he would like the returned soldiers to understand that the welcome they received when they came back to Temuka was no sham, but a reality, giving expression to the real feelings of the people. The men had by their services at the war conferred

honour on Temuka and the people they had sprung from. — (Applause.) The war was not yet finished, and they had to continue sending away their men. They must heartily welcome those who returned, and they must continue to give a warm send-off to the men who went away, because those who were going away had a great task in front of them. The enemy was working under the sea, in the air, and in the bowels of the earth, and he had to be rooted out from wherever he was and defeated. He hoped the enemy would soon be beaten. — (Applause.) He trusted that the men would soon recover their health. He would not call for more cheers for them, because he knew that in their hearts all present fully recognised the great services these men had rendered to Ternuka and the Empire — (Applause.)

Private McKinlay, speaking on behalf of his comrades and himself, said he had to thank the speakers and all present for the kindly welcome they had given to them. He did not think that was the time or place to talk about what they had done or had not done, but would thank all again for their warm welcome home. — (Applause.)

Cheers were given for the boys at the front, and further cheers for Mr Gunnion and the Mayor brought the proceedings to a close, and after the Band had played some more selections the men were driven to their homes.

It was pleasing to see that all the men were looking so well, being far on the road to recovery, the voyage home having been very beneficial to them.

Private McKinlay was wounded in the arm and body. Private Nicholas was wounded in the chest, just after Messines. Private Scott was wounded in the leg. Private Cliff sustained not less than nine wounds in the legs, shoulder, and face, and Private Allan was invalided home, suffering from rheumatism.

The motor cars were kindly provided by Messrs W. Hally, D. Grant, W. Palmer, Jesse South, Leonard and R. Maddren.

Timaru Herald. 10 November 1919 [31/12/2024]

WAITOHI

A PATRIOTIC GATHERING. PRESENTATION OF SOLDIERS' MEDALS.

One of the most memorable gatherings ever held at Waitohi took place last Thursday evening, when the ceremony of presenting gold medals to forty-five returned soldiers took place. The gathering was organised by the Waitohi Flat Presentation and Memorial Committee, of which Mr H. S. McCully is chairman, and Mr W. Moore hon. secretary. The schoolroom was beautifully decorated and all the arrangements made reflected credit on the Committee. The purpose of the meeting appealed to all the people of the district, and fully 300 were present, including visitors from other districts.

An enjoyable concert programme was provided, singers, instrumentalists, and monologuists having been enlisted from various centres, and each and all were well applauded.

At the conclusion of the concert the returned soldiers were assembled in the front seats, and addresses of thanks and welcome home were made by Mr H. S. McCully, Mr Torepe (chairman of the Arowhenua Native Committee), and Mr Gunnion (Mayor of Temuka). Mr Gunnion, who thanked the Committee for giving him the honour of doing so, presented the medals which were pinned on the first three by Mrs Gunnion, the rest by various young ladies.

The following is a list of the returned soldiers whose names were called: - Privates A. M. Allen, Garret Allen, Peter Allen, John Baker, H. Chapman, Corporal Stewart D. Baxter, Privates C. E. Bradford, R. J. Cowles, Daniel Connel, Sergeant Ernest Davey, Privates G. M. Elsom, M. Fitzgerald, D. Fitzgerald, R. Goodeve, F. Goodeve, G. J. Gould, Con Hannifin,

Owen Hannifin, Jer. Hannifin, M. Hullen, James Hughes, J. S. Hughes, U. Harper, U. Hutchison, V. G. Johnson. G. M. Johnston, John Lamb, George Looker, Charles McAteer, James L. McAteer, D. Marshall, Lieutenant William G. McClintock, M.M., Privates Martin McGill, John O'Niel, Sergeant Harold O'Niel, Privates A. Overend, Lieutenant Warne Pearce, R. Pearse. J. Stratford, T. Stokes, A. Stokes, F. Talbot, C. Talbot, James Tilford, Harold Traves. One man had come down from Wellington to be present. In a few cases of absent men, the medals were received by relatives or friends.

After the presentations the company joined in singing "Soldiers of the King," and "For they are jolly good fellows."

Lieutenant Warne Pearse, on behalf of all the men, returned thanks to the committee, the speakers and the public for their kindness, and for their mementoes of the war. He also thanked the ladies of Waitohi for the much-valued parcels sent to the front and the chairman, Mr McCully, for keeping the patriotic spirit well alive.

The chairman announced that the Committee had collected about £160 during the last few weeks and had £100 in hand towards the cost of a memorial to the ten local men who had made the supreme sacrifice. Individual memorial certificates had been prepared and these would be delivered to the relatives of the fallen men. A meeting would be held shortly to consider the form of memorial.

The names of the men who had lost their lives are — Privates William John Davey, Rangitira Valley; Edward James Gould, Waitohi Flat; Henry Hullen, Waitohi Flat; Alexander Stewart McClintock, Temuka; William Overend, Timothy Perry, Waitohi; Cecil H. P. Rawstorn, Timaru; Stanley Joshua Smart, Waitohi; Second Lieutenant Arthur Ernest Talbot and Private Basil Herbert Talbot, Rangitira; Private John Wade, Winchester Road.

Mr C. J. Talbot, M.P., arrived after the presentation, was called upon for a speech, and he made a few remarks appropriate to the occasion, expressing gratification that the district was to have its own memorial, and congratulating the Committee on having such a fine gathering.

The chairman moved a vote of thanks to the concert performers, the speakers, and the Mayor and Mayoress of Temuka for their assistance. The ladies then served an excellent supper, after which the young people resumed dancing.