

SOLDIERS' FAREWELLS

TEMUKA'S CONTINGENT.

FOR 16th REINFORCEMENTS.

Fourteen recruits left Timaru by the 2 p.m. train on Wednesday, and one Temuka man was to join at Timaru. Led by the Temuka Brass and Pipe Bands, and with Mr C. H. Street as marshal and Mr C. Bates as standard bearer, the men under Captain Chapman and Sergeant-Major Husband marched through King and Wood Streets and Railway Terrace to the railway station. The school children and a very large number of townspeople took part in the procession. At the station addresses were delivered by the Mayor (Mr A. Frew), Mr T. Gunnion, and the Rev. A. H. Norris. The recruits were enthusiastically cheered as they boarded the train. The shops and offices were closed for about an hour to enable all employees who wished to take part in the send-off, which was the best so far given at Temuka.

A SOCIAL FAREWELL.

A farewell social to a number of recruits was held at the Drill Shed, Temuka, on Tuesday evening. Mr T. Gunnion, chairman of the Patriotic Entertainment Committee, presided. Though much extra seating accommodation had been provided, the attendance was so large that many had to be content with standing room.

The chairman, in a few opening remarks, said he was pleased to preside at another send-off to recruits, and to see such a large attendance. After referring to the patriotism of the boys and extolling the fine spirit they were showing, he it was only right that the people should show that they were fully sensible(?) of their obligations to the men who were going to fight for them, and give them a good send-off. He hoped that all were there in the right spirit. The Mayor had received a telegram from Mr C. J. Talbot, M.P., who had hoped to be present, wishing the boys good luck and a safe return after victory. That was what they all wished. Mr Gunnion then read the names of the recruits who were leaving, as follows: — **G. C. Hayhurst**, S. H. Ashwell, C. Johnston, **H. Coulter**, W. M. Frisby, **W. Guilford**, T. J. Dale, **M. J. T. Walsh**, **J. W. Connell**, W. Cain, S. J. Parke, **D. J. Fitzgerald**, R. J. Cowles, H. J. Pierce, and **J. Brown**. He concluded by saying that four or five more had hoped to get away, but had been stopped because they were under age.

A RECRUITING SPEECH.

A most enjoyable concert programme was given, after which Chaplain-Captain King gave an address, in the opening of which he congratulated the people of Temuka on the fact that they were again sending away their quota. He suggested that the men who were going should be marched on the platform and given an opportunity of looking into the faces of that large audience. If that were done they would never forget that those at home were with them, heart and soul. That meant a great deal to the men at the front. It heartened them up and gave them the feeling that it was not entirely their fight and that if they were wounded and fell others would take their place. It sustained them in the belief that the war would be carried on to an end, and the war could only have one end — victory for Britain and her Allies. He congratulated the men who were going because he knew it was worth their while. These men would learn when they got away what a small part of the earth's surface New Zealand is. He had found also that men who go into camp were better men physically, after four months' training. He did not care whether they followed agriculture or a profession, they were better men after having been in camp. Then a man would be better mentally for going to the war. He would see new countries. His knowledge and experience would be increased and his outlook broadened. He would see, for instance, the wonderful irrigation works of Egypt. The men who had been away would be the men who would later sit on Road Boards, County Councils, and in Parliament. They would come back to assist in formulating and carrying out

schemes for irrigating and increasing the productiveness of the Canterbury Plains. They were going to control the destiny of this beautiful land. The man who refused to go to the front would inevitably find his level later on. As Colonel Cosgrove had once said: "A man who once sees his duty and does not do it will never be the same man again." Mr King spoke impressively of the seriousness of the great struggle in which the British Empire and its Allies are engaged, and was glad to see that New Zealand was doing well in supplying men. So far the Government had got all they had asked for. This spoke volumes for the manhood of New Zealand. He commended the spirit of the boys who had put their names down though too young to be accepted. He concluded by saying that he knew that when Temuka was called on again it would send its quota. (Applause.)

Led by the chairman the audience sang, "For he's a Jolly Good Fellow" in honour of the speaker.

Supper was provided by the Patriotic Entertainment Committee. At the conclusion all sang the National Anthem and cheered the recruits.

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WINCHESTER.

WELCOME AND PRESENTATION TO RETURNED SOLDIERS.

On Friday evening, a social was held in the Victoria Hall, Winchester, as a welcome home to the Returned Soldiers and presentation of medals to those who had left Winchester to take part in the Great War. Despite the very foggy night, the attendance was the largest that ever assembled in the Victoria Hall. The Temuka R.S.A. were well represented, the president (Mr J. P. Hastings), Mr D. O'Connor (secretary), and many other members, being present. Mr T. Gunnion (Mayor of Temuka), was also present.

Before commencing the dancing, Mr J. C. South, chairman of the R.S.W.H. Committee, asked everyone in the room to make themselves at home, and expressed the hope that all would thoroughly enjoy themselves. He also apologised for the absence of Mr J. J. Cotter.

The Hall was beautifully decorated | with flax, cabbage trees, and other greenery, and flags lent by the local school and Mr C. Bates. The music was supplied by Mr J. Johnston, extras being played by Mr. Arthur Scott. Misses Myra Opie and Gladys South danced a couple of Highland dances. The catering was in the capable hands of Mr Shepherd, and Mr J. Cripps made an efficient M.C. During the evening songs were sung by Misses Johnston, Messrs W. Ives, Stan Niles, and A. M. Opie, and Mr E. Taylor, gave a recitation.

THE PRESENTATIONS.

During an interval Mr J. C. South said they had met together to present the Returned Soldiers with medals. The presentation had been lingering on for a long time, but they had met together that night to show their appreciation of the work that the soldiers had done for them. He spoke feelingly of the parents who had lost their boys at the front, and he then called on Mr C. A. Opie, to make the presentation.

Mr Opie said he had much pleasure in making the presentation of medals that evening. Soldiers had done splendid work during the war and now they had settled down again, he hoped they would prove good citizens. He asked them all to come forward as their names were called out, and receive their medals. The medals were pinned on by Myra Opie and Gladys South, every recipient being loudly applauded. Mr T. Gunnion, Mayor of Temuka, said he had much pleasure in congratulating' the residents of the district on rolling up so well to welcome the returned soldiers that evening. The boys fully deserved all honour that could

be paid to them, and he hoped that they would live long or wear their medals. He thanked the Committee of Winchester for inviting the Temuka residents' to be present.

Dr J. P. Hastings, (president of the Temuka R.S.A.), also thanked the Committee for their kind invitation to be present that evening. He spoke of the great distress at Home, where now that the war was over, returned soldiers could not now get work to do. The Doctor's remarks were listened to with great interest.

Q.M.S. D. C. Scott, M.M., replied on behalf of the returned soldiers, thanking the residents for their welcome, and the various speakers for their remarks. He also thanked the ladies for the splendid work done for the soldiers during the war.

Mr Opie thanked the people of Winchester and surrounding districts for their attendance, after which, on the call of Mr Gunnion, three hearty cheers were given for the returned soldiers.

Dancing was kept up till 3.30 a.m., when "Auld Lang Syne," was sung, and brought to a conclusion one of the best and most enjoyable evenings ever spent in Winchester.

The following is a list of the recipients of medals :

Q.M.S. D. C. Scott, M.M.

Sergt.-Major G. Burborough.

Sergeant H. Kennedy, M.M.,

Sergeant C. H. Elsom, M.M.

Lance-Corporal E. H. Langford, M.M.

Driver A. H. Cripps.

Private J. R. Bradshaw.

Private G. Bradshaw.

Private H. Darby.

Private A. E. Darby.

Private J. P. Haar.

Private E. Hoskin.

Private T. Harrison.

Private H. Hobbs.

Private R. W. Jones.

Private D. Lyons,

Private T. H. Langford.

Private G. Elsom.

Private J. Lindsay.

Private W. B. Scott.

Private R. A. Young.

Gunner J. H. Paterson.

Sapper F. W. Pearce.

Rifleman G. H. McBratney.

Rifleman C. J. McBratney.

Rifleman C. Unwin. .

Rifleman C. DeRenzy.

Private A. Davey.

Private F. Waldron.

Rifleman D. J. Powell.

Trooper N. G. Barker,

Trooper G. Cliff.

Trooper D. Ferguson.

Sergeant M. Lyons.

Sergeant W. G. Barrett.

Certificates were given to the next-of-kin of those boys who had paid the supreme sacrifice:

Sergeant W. McClelland.

Private S. McClelland.

Private Stanley Davey.

Trooper Ernie Booker.

Trooper Thomas Booker.

Private T. R. Kennedy.

Rifleman J. S. Fothergill.

Sergt.-Farrier H. J. Joseph

Private W. Guildtord.

Rifleman J. Aitken.

Rifleman C. J. Haar.