

1911.
NEW ZEALAND.

NEW ZEALAND JUNIOR CADETS

(REPORT ON THE).

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

THE COMMANDANT OF THE NEW ZEALAND JUNIOR CADETS to the Hon. the MINISTER OF EDUCATION,
Wellington.

SIR.—

Wellington, 11th July, 1911.

I have the honour, pursuant to subsection (2) of section 36 of the Defence Act, 1909, to submit the following report on the Junior Cadets of New Zealand for the year ended 31st March, 1911.

The following summary, compiled from returns received from approximately 2,000 schools (public and private) in the Dominion, will show that the total strength of the Junior Cadet Force (including Scout Cadets) is 29,067, which is an increase of nearly 5,000 on the number for 1910.

The Scout Cadets do not include any units belonging to the Boy Scout organization; they comprise patrols formed at small schools where it would be difficult to work Cadet detachments. Their training is similar to the Boy Scouts' training. The details of strength are as under:—

	Number of Units.	Number of Officers.	Number of Cadets and Officers.
Junior Cadet officers .. .. .	..	913	..
Scoutmasters .. .. .	..	320	..
Junior Cadet units	490	..	..
.. Scout Cadet units	645	..	..
.. Cadets (all ranks) .. .. .	..	..	22,939
.. Scout Cadets (all ranks) .. .. .	..	..	6,128
Totals	1,135	1,233	29,067
Totals for 1909-10	1,013	1,100	24,300
Increase 1910-11	122	133	4,767

On the coming into force of the Defence Act, 1909-10, providing for the compulsory training of Junior Cadets, which necessitated the taking-over of all assets and lawful liabilities by the Government, it was found that a very large amount of the equipment in the possession of Cadet units was worn out, in some cases being as much as from eight to ten years old, and required replenishing, in addition to which each new unit as it was formed had to be fully equipped. Consequently, 10,000 sets of equipment (including model rifles, belts, and haversacks), 10,000 caps, and 6,000 jerseys had to be purchased during the year.

Owing to the large amount of work at Headquarters due to the reorganization, re-equipment, the taking-over and adjusting the assets and liabilities of the Public-school Cadets, which existed prior to the adoption of obligatory training, I found it impossible to do much inspection-work during the transitory period, which may be said to have continued during the whole year. Wherever I did go, however, I found the utmost enthusiasm shown by all ranks, and, generally speaking, satisfactory work being done by officers, non-commissioned officers, and Cadets. I was able to advise many schools in the selection of sites for miniature ranges, and was also able to settle many minor difficulties on the spot.

Colonial Ammunition Company's Cups.

Combined districts of Auckland and Hawke's Bay—			
Cadet T. Monteith, No. 1 Company, Hastings	..	..	72
Combined districts of Taranaki, Wanganui, and Wellington—			
Private Wake Barry, Stratford District High School	..	..	83
Combined districts of Nelson, Marlborough, Westland, and North and South Canterbury—			
Private J. Wooding, Geraldine	..	..	96
Combined districts of Otago and Southland—			
Colour-Sergeant G. Gough, Kaikorai	..	..	95

Wanganui Challenge Shield.

Tie not yet fired off.

Wanganui Championship Belt.

Bugler R. Down, Dannevirke North	42
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Winners of District Prize Medals, being the Highest Individual Scorers for each District.

Colour-Sergeant Olsen, C.	..	Picton, Marlborough	..	..	72
Sergeant Cadness, R.	..	Northcote, Auckland	..	..	69
Cadet Lewin	..	Masterton, Wellington	..	..	70
„ Barry, W.	..	Stratford, Taranaki	..	..	83
Colour-Sergeant Gough, G.	..	Kaikorai, Otago	..	..	95
Cadet Coutts, F.	..	Makarewa, Waikiwi, Southland	..	..	92
„ Hawthorne	..	Hastings, Hawke's Bay	..	..	74
„ Wooding	..	Geraldine, South Canterbury	..	..	96
„ Ashley, D.	..	St. Albans, North Canterbury	..	..	76
„ Reeves, A.	..	Nelson	..	..	82
„ Hughes, W.	..	Hokitika, Westland	..	..	92
„ Waters, W.	..	Waverley, Wanganui	..	..	62

Though shooting is one of the most important branches of a Junior Cadet's education, I regard physical training as being even more important, and have issued orders to all my Instructors that physical drill, without apparatus *only*, is to be taught to Cadets at schools. Apparatus, such as dumb-bells or clubs, &c., is unsuitable for young children, and tends to stiffen rather than strengthen their muscles, and is more likely to do harm than good. In this I am supported by medical men and physical-culture experts throughout the Dominion.

Field-Marshal Earl Roberts last year offered a framed and signed photograph of himself to the best all-round Junior Cadet of the year. This was won by Bugler R. Down, of the Dannevirke North Junior Cadets Company.

His Lordship has also presented a signed copy of his book "Forty-one Years in India" for the best all-round Junior Cadet in 1911.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure for the year amounted to £7,669 8s. 4d., whilst the sum voted was £7,223. This excess of expenditure over the vote was due to the fact that revenue due, amounting to considerably more than the excess expenditure, was not credited to the Junior Cadet vote before the 31st March. (For details see schedule.)

In conclusion, I desire to state that I propose to make it a fundamental principle to refer to the General Officer Commanding the New Zealand Defence Forces all matters involving a change of system, such as military and physical training, target practice, organization, discipline, amendments to regulations, &c., for his consideration and opinion before actually giving effect to them.

The first matter to be dealt with in this way will be a series of amendments to the Regulations for the Junior Cadets, which I propose to submit at an early date for your approval.

The guiding principle in these amendments will be to obviate as much as possible any conflict between the Junior Cadet Regulations and those governing the Defence Forces. So long as this is done there need be no fear of overlapping in any way, and uniformity will be assured.

At the invitation of the G.O.C. the Defence Forces, I attended, for a few days, the training-camp at Tauherenikau, and witnessed the carrying-out of the tactical schemes. From every point of view I consider the camp afforded excellent examples of how such camps should be conducted, and I intend to bear it in mind as a model upon which to base future Cadet officers' training-camps.

SCHEDULE.

DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1911.

	Voted.			Expended.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<i>Salaries—</i>						
1. Commandant of Cadets	450	0	0			
Staff Officer at £250 (ten months)	208	0	0			
1 clerk at £210, 1 Storeman and Armourer at £193	403	0	0			
9 Staff Sergeant Instructors at £160 (six months)	720	0	0			
Typiste	62	0	0			
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	1,843	0	0	1,889	6	4
<i>Other charges for and incidental to—</i>						
2. Arms and accessories, ammunition, equipment, uniforms, model rifles, prizes, engraving, insurance, books, office requisites, stores, &c.	4,000	0	0	5,350	0	9
3. Camps of training and course of instruction	800	0	0	259	11	2
4. Fares and allowances of officers, instructors, and cadets (including drill-pay)	250	0	0	225	4	7
5. Rifle ranges, construction, repairs, rents, targets, sheds, and incidental expenses	400	0	0	463	13	11
6. Travelling expenses and allowances	100	0	0	192	4	4
7. Visit of Cadet representatives to England and Canada	110	0	0	110	0	0
8. Contingencies, including unforeseen expenditure incidental to the other items of the vote	50	0	0	..		
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	7,553	0	0	8,490	1	1
Less estimated credits under section 42 of the Public Revenues Act, 1908	330	0	0	820	12	9
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	£7,223	0	0	£7,669	8	4

I have, &c.,

T. W. MacDONALD, Major,
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