

# Volunteer Notes.

By RIFLEMAN.

His brother officers congratulated Major Sherson last week on attaining his majority, and the health of this enthusiastic officer was cordially honoured at the gathering.

The Kicker Cup, presented to the best company in Auckland shooting and efficiency — has been awarded to No. 3 Company, G.A.V. It will be remembered that it was announced as having been won by No. 1 Company, but No. 3 protested, and Colonel Patterson upheld the protest.

The Auckland Highland Rifles expect to be in their khaki uniforms in about a week. The company is now up to its full strength of 60, but there is room for a few really good men. There are some keen recruits in the corps, and the men are looking forward to the season, which begins next month.

Lady X (whose husband has the worst case in the West of England) can't squeeze in a Friday to Tuesday? Just a couple of days on the moor? Omy D'Arcy: "Sorry, can't possibly leave London. Big schemes on at the War Office. We're crossing the Channel in a couple of days, hoping to get verbal messages through." "Punch."

No. 3 Company Auckland G.A.V. is recruiting very well still, and there are between 140 and 150 men on the roll — nearly the full strength in 1907. The corps is thinking of electing another captain, and Mr. Finch, dentist, is spoken of as the new officer. Daylight parades every fortnight are having a good effect on the efficiency of the men.

The late Sergt. McIntyre, of No. 3 Company, G.A.V., who was unfortunately drowned in the Auckland Harbour, was accorded a military funeral, and the respect in which he was held was evidenced by the representative muster. His only company provided the firing party, and many representatives from other corps followed in the cortege. His comrades are procuring two enlarged photographs, one for presentation to his mother, and the other to hang in the Orderly Room.

Men in the various companies who have been chosen to uphold Auckland's reputation at the big Palmerston North tournament on November 8th and 9th, are getting in steady practice, and it is to be hoped their enthusiasm will be rewarded by a good show of trophies. Nos. 1 and 3 Auckland G.A.V., the Engineers, College Rifles, and the Heaver Corps are sending teams. The train and leaving on Saturday night, but efforts will be made to secure a special train to run on Saturday night. As it is, the men will have to leave on Friday night, as there is no main trunk express on Saturday and leaving on Sunday night would cut things too fine. There will be quite a hundred men going down, so there should not be much difficulty in arranging with the Railway Department for a special.

Scoutmaster H. Stebbing sends a letter, enclosing the following statement by Troop Sergeant Galloway:—"In reference to the attack made by the Northcote No. 1 Troop Boy Scouts on the Devonport No. 1 Troop, I wish to endorse the statement made in Wednesday's issue. The result was stated that the result was a win for Devonport, but I think it should have been the other way about, as six of the attackers were caught and eighteen got in to the enemies' quarters without being touched. This statement was proved by Scoutmaster Simpson, of the Devonport troop, who himself stated that the attack was fair, and that we had the best of it."

In looking over the annual report on the artillery forces for the year 1908-9, one is struck with the marked improvement in shooting, especially in the garrison artillery branch. The percentage of hits to counts fired during the past year was 71.50. The previous year's result was 62.45, while back in 1904-5 it was only 36.10. This marked improvement is phenomenal, and, considering the fact that the forces consist purely of men who put in their spare time only at gunnery, it is an achievement that I dare say compared favourably with the best of our regular gunners. As regards the field artillery, the whole trouble seems to lie in the fact that the men are mostly new men from coming and going. To make a really efficient field artillery garrison requires two years of hard work, and it is impossible to expect good results while rapid change in personnel is going on. Another drawback is the housing of the batteries, and it is, indeed, a good move on the part of the local battery in arranging for the supply of the same houses for every parade.

The annual rifle meeting of the Franklin Mounted Rifles, held at Clevedon, was a distinct success, and some exceedingly good work was done by the company. Lieut. J. Shaw won the aggregate with a score of 218 points, and the runner-up was Private J. White, who was only a point behind, and another point separated the third man, Lieut. Litchfield. The scores on the last day of the meeting were as follows:—

Papakura Match, 7 shots at 500yds and 600yds. A Class: Lieut. J. Shaw, 65, 1; Richardson, 56, 2; Sergt. C. White, 50, 3. B Class: Corporal J. Walker, 57, 1; Private B. McCormack, 56, 2; Private J. White, 53, 3. C Class: Private Crawford, 40, 1; Private Kemp, 38, 2; Private Walker, 30, 3.

Rapidly Match, 7 shots at 500yds, 45sec. A Class: Quartermaster T. Dow, 32, 1; Lieut. Litchfield, 26, 2; Private J. F.

White, 22, 3. B Class: Corporal Walker, 24, 1; Private Corser, 20, 2; Private Hawthorn, 20, 3. C Class: Private J. Walker, 20, 1; Private J. Alexander, 20, 2; Private Crawford, 11, 3.

Grand Aggregate, open to those 12 points within highest score of meeting, 7 shots at 700yds.—Lieut. J. Shaw, 218 points, 1; Private J. P. White, 217 points, 2; Lieut. Litchfield, 216 points, 3.

The following district orders have been issued by Lieut.-Col. Wolfe, under date October 7th:—District classes of instruction for ten days will be held at the following places, and on the dates mentioned:—Tauranga, commencing Monday, 25th inst., ending 3rd November, 1909; Opotiki, commencing Friday, 5th November, ending 14th November, 1909; Whangarei, commencing Tuesday, 23rd November, ending 2nd December, 1909. Syllabus of instruction at 400 yds. will be held at the following places, mobilisation, musketry, Datas for classes at Thames, Paeroa, and Waikato will be notified to all concerned later. The results of the Government prize medal competitions for year ending 1908-09 are as follows:—Gold and silver medal for 2nd best shot in North Island: No. 596, Private Thomas Jack, Victoria Rifle Volunteers, score 301. Silver medal for best shot in Auckland district: No. 583, Sergt. John Anderson, Victoria Rifles, score 299. Defence cadets—Gold and silver medal for best shot in North Island: No. 59, Sergt. Ronald Vernon, Eden Cadets, score 231. Silver medal for best shot in Auckland district: No. 25, Sergt. Percy McCullough, Eden Cadets, score 221. The undermentioned volunteers have passed the qualifying examination for the rank set opposite their respective names:—4th Marching Battalion, No. 2, N.Z.G.A. Vols., for sergeant; 675, Battersby, Thos., No. 2 N.Z.G.A. Vols., for sergeant; 623, Black, Robt., No. 3 N.Z.G.A. Vols., for sergeant; 539, Golden, R. W., No. 3 N.Z.G.A. Vols., for sergeant; 518, Skeates, Edgar, No. 3 N.Z.G.A. Vols., for corporal; 220, Urquhart, K., No. 3 N.Z.G.A. Vols., for corporal.

### "A" Battery Trek.

On Saturday week the "A" Battery left the Drill Hall en route for Panmure on the week-end trek which had been planned by the officers some time ago. In order to give the march additional interest, Major Sherson drew up a scheme by which a raiding force was reported having landed at Howick, and the "A" Battery, under Major Sherson's command, was held by hostile troops. After leaving Ellerslie, the guns engaged a strong post of the invaders holding the hill, with two machine guns commanding the road. Soon after coming into action the enemy was quelled in the hill, and across was Panmure bridge, which, however, was left intact. The Battery reached Panmure at seven o'clock, the guns packed on the ground adjoining the Public Hall, and the men quartered in the hall. An early start was made next morning, word having been received that the enemy were occupying the high ground this side of Pakuranga. The advanced guard soon signalled back having come in contact, and before long the position of the enemy, as shown by blank charges, fired with a fuse by a special N.C.O., was being shelled. At midday "stop firing" was sounded, and some Battery drill and field manoeuvres were carried out. After returning to the hotel, and the midday meal disposed of, Major Sherson took his guns across the bridge again, and the "alarm and turnout," which form part of the tactics of the Battery, is examined in at the annual camp, was practised. The procedure for this is the Battery is bivouacked, horses picketed to ropes stretched between the guns, with the men lying down in rear. On the alarm sounding, the men hurried and hooked in, the guns limbered up, and the Battery galloped up 200yds to the front, brought into action, a series fired, then limbered up, retired, and the horses unharnessed and picketed as before. After the evening meal the return journey was made to Auckland, and the gunroom reached at eight, all ranks feeling well pleased with the enjoyment of the outing and the useful and instructive work done.

During the day Colonel Wolfe was out, and watched the Battery working, and Major Bloomfield and Captains Rosworth and Shera were also present. Lieut. B. Cumming, adjutant of the Infantry Battalion, was in command of the Battery during the trip. The officers of the corps are in debt to Messrs. Roberts and Milne for their kindness in placing their paddocks at the disposal of the Battery.

### Dominion Boy Scouts.

(By Scoutmaster.)

[Notes for this column should be forwarded to the Star Office, addressed to "Scoutmaster," not later than Monday in each week.]

Dominion Chief-Scout Major Congrove has issued a notification from General Sir Baden-Powell, suggesting that the Scouts in New Zealand should be known as Dominion Scouts, not Baden-Powell Scouts. The major has agreed to adopt the title suggested by the Commandant Chief-Scout, Sir Baden-Powell.

The first Ponsonby troop, under the leadership of Scoutmaster Dinnon, are rapidly gaining ground and making good progress in the art of scoutcraft. Dr. Purdy (whom I understand has been appointed Inspector-General of Scouts for the Auckland district) delivered a lecture on

first aid to the Ponsonby troop in the Baptist Sunday-school room on Thursday evening last week. The lecturer, who delivered a most interesting address, received an attentive hearing, and at the conclusion of his remarks the lecturer was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

The Northcote troop are a live body of scouts, who are constantly putting in good work at fixed movements, signalling, or physical culture.

Last Thursday week Inspector-General Chappell (headquarters staff), in conjunction with Chief Scoutmaster Simpson and his troop of scouts, held a meeting at the Sunnyside Mission Hall, Stanley Bay. Mr. Buddle presided. A large number of boys were present. The Inspector-General delivered an interesting address on the scout movement, and invited all who desired to join the movement to remain in the hall. Some 25 boys handed in their names at the conclusion of the meeting, and a troop was formed, making two troops at North Shore. Mr. Buddle was elected scoutmaster. It was decided that the new troop should meet on Thursday evenings in the Mission Hall.

There are now 70 boy scouts at North Shore.

Boys desirous of joining the scouts at Devonport should apply to the Scoutmaster, Mr. Buddle, Stanley Bay, or to Chief-Scoutmaster Simpson, Devonport.

The No. 1 troop, Devonport Scouts, met at their club-room on Friday week last, when a most interesting paper on scoutcraft by Capt. E. Knyvet, O. N.Z.G.A.V., was read by Regimental Sergeant-Major Jameson, A.M.I. At the conclusion of his reading the sergeant-major was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his thoughtful address in providing such good food for reflection.

The No. 1 troop, Devonport, had a dispatch run on Saturday week from the Lake. Scout King succeeded in getting through the break. He suffered a great deal at home, and eventually his trouble reached such a climax that he had to be removed to a private hospital, late night in preparation for an operation the next day. His many bearings throughout his suffering was a source of comfort and encouragement to his parents. Although he admitted afterwards that the sight of the white-uniformed doctors and their instruments made him to a private hospital late at night in preparation for an operation, he managed to joke to his parents as to whether it was a laundry he was coming to. The secret of his courageous bearing came out later, when he explained that upon first becoming ill he had imagined himself that he was a Scout, and that it was therefore his duty to bear pain bravely, and to strive by appearing cheerful to relieve the natural anxiety of his parents. A movement which justifies such chivalrous ideas in the minds of our young is calculated to build strong, healthy manhood.

### Our Atmosphere an Aerial Sea.

The atmosphere, like an ocean, overlies the whole surface of the earth; in fact, it is an ocean; and it is literally true that, like crabs and lobsters, we live and move and spend our days at the bottom of a sea—an aerial sea. This atmospheric ocean rises far above us, and, like that of waters, has its waves, its currents, and its tides. It is found to grow more rarefied, as well as colder, as we ascend towards its upper limits, which is supposed to be about forty-five miles above the level of the sea. This ocean air, like that of water, has its weights and pressure.

People in general are not aware, because they are not conscious, of any weight resting upon them from the atmosphere; yet reliable experiments prove that at the sea level it presses with a force equal to 14 3/5 pounds on every square inch, or 2,100 pounds on every square foot, or fifty-eight billion, six hundred and eleven million five hundred and eighty-four thousand, one hundred and sixty pounds on every square mile; or on the whole surface of the earth with a weight equal to that of a solid globe of lead sixty miles in diameter!

How few reflect that they live under an ocean of such stupendous weight. But to bring this fact more sensibly before the mind it may be stated that the atmospheric pressure on the whole surface of a medium-sized man is no less than fourteen tons—a weight that would instantly crush him, as hollow vessels collapse when sunk deep in the ocean, but for the elasticity and equal pressure of the air on every part without, and the counter balancing pressure of the air within.

"This," remarked Mr. Cane, "is my photograph with my two French poodles. You recognise me, eh?"

"I think so," said Miss Sofie. "You are the one with the hat on, are you not?"

# THE CURING OF STOMACH TROUBLE

## Removing the Cause Cures the Complaint.

## Any other Treatment is Mere Patchwork—A Great Sufferer from Indigestion, tells how He was Cured.

Briefly, to cure Stomach Trouble, try and remove whatever causes it. Remember that the cause removed is a complete cure. Stomach trouble is a general name for all the forms of indigestion, whether great pain after eating, belchings of wind, heavy feeling in the stomach, nausea, or the sharp pains that often feel like heart trouble. There are two things noticeable in indigestion. One is, that doctors always find indigestion a prominent symptom in a bloodless run down state. The other, that suffers with indigestion usually find relief when a tonic is taken that restores the general health. Without a doubt, stomach trouble is simply stomach weakness. The right cure is to make the stomach strong enough to digest food without any trouble. Any other treatment is mere patchwork at the best. Purgatives merely move the food on. Pre-digested foods don't call on the stomach to do its own work. As the processes of digestion are controlled by the blood and the nerves, the stomach that is too weak to properly digest food needs a tonic to give it strength. We have never heard of anything that has cured so many cases of indigestion as Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. This is because they make new blood, tone the nerves, and so strengthen all the bodily functions. As proof is stronger than any argument, we give below the particulars of a severe case recently reported.

"I noticed my digestion some time back getting very poor, due mostly to eating my meals too hastily, and also to the dust in my former employment," said Mr. J. S. Toukin, Charles-st., West Shore, Napier, N.Z. "About three o'clock each day I'd get severe pains in the chest at the end of the breast bone, and they would last till bed time. I always ate well, but I paid dearly for it. I did not sleep at all well. I might be awake for hours. I was often attacked with dizzy turns in the day, as if objects near me were coming close up and then retreating, and there would be quite a haze before my eyes. I got very sallow and went down in weight quite a couple of stone. I felt very depressed in spirits and quite done up, as if I had no energy or strength left. Vegetables especially disagreed with me, and I often could not keep them down. I took various tonics, but I only seemed to get worse. At last I tried Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. The second box started to do me good. I found the pains in my chest and stomach gradually lessening. I began to sleep a lot better. When I was half through the third box I felt better still. My colour came back. I could eat a good meal with no after effects. I began to put flesh on. I did not need more than three boxes of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, as every symptom of indigestion had disappeared when I finished that number. Now I am in the best of health and condition."

It is a fact that people who look smart and shrewd are never pestered by the shop-keeper to take one of his own so-called cures. They get the genuine without question. If one begins to talk to you of something "just as good" you may conclude he thinks you easy to gull. There are many places where genuine goods are always given without question—trade there. Price 3/ per box, six boxes 18/6, from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co. of Australasia, Ltd., Wellington.

Dr. Hale once told of a minister who preached over an hour on the four greater prophets, and then, when his exhausted congregation thought he was through, took a long breath, turned a fresh page, and, leaning over the pulpit, said: "We now come to the more complex question of the minor prophets. First let us assign to them their proper order. Where, brethren, shall we place Hosea?" An irascible old gentleman in a back new rose, took his hat and stick, and said as he departed: "You may give 'im my place, if you want to. I'm going."