

THE TOURIST and TRAVELLER

HERE AND THERE.

Mr and Mrs Gordon-Brown, of the Malay States, are at present in Auckland.

The death has occurred at Eketahuna of Mr Anders Olsen. Deceased arrived in New Zealand from Sweden fifty years ago, and was engaged in farming in the Eketahuna district for many years.

"No fewer than 170 of our New Zealand troops have received honours (military decorations) on account of the recent fighting," stated the Prime Minister (the Right Hon. W. F. Massey) the other day.

Mr. Forsyth, whose death is announced from Sydney, was general manager for Burns, Philp and Co., the shipping firm. He was well known in New Zealand, his last visit to this country being in connection with a project for obtaining better communication with Japan.

In a letter received from Major R. A. Wilson, son of Sir James Wilson, Bulls, he says that steel helmets undoubtedly save thousands of lives. He himself was struck by fragments of shell which only succeeded in making a scalp wound owing to the protection afforded by the helmet. He was sent to the base hospital, and after nine days' rest rejoined his battery, which has now been increased by the addition of two more heavy guns. He now commands six guns, 200 men, and seven officers—a good record for a year's service in the Imperial Army.

Mr. A. E. Rolfe, who has been in the Railway Department for a period of thirty years, during thirteen years of which he had been stationed at Hawera, has resigned in order to take up farming at New Plymouth.

New Zealand cadets from Duntroon Military College have returned to New Zealand for the Christmas vacation. They arrived at the same time as a number of helmeted soldiers from Egypt, and as the cadets, also wearing helmets, came on to the wharf they were mistaken for returned soldiers. A bystander called for three cheers for our boys from the desert sands of Egypt, and the cheers were given heartily, the cadets accepting the compliment with a smile.

The Fishing Gazette of 20th October, discussing a controversy about the introduction of salmon in the Rhine and the Penobscot, says the success of the efforts of Mr. Ayson to establish the Pacific Coast quinnat salmon of North America in New Zealand waters is beyond dispute. "We have accounts of thousands of quinnat up to 60lb. charging up the great New Zealand rivers, the result of hatching eggs imported from America." The success of quinnat in New Zealand proves that so far as that class of salmon is concerned it can be established in rivers which never since they were formed had salmon in them.

An orchardist in the Nelson district has been making experiments in tobacco-growing. He already has raised some 50,000 tobacco plants in his orchard, and this year intends to plant ten acres. He calculates that an acre of orchard will take 4000 plants and that seven plants will produce a pound of leaf.

Mr. Frank Wells, of Palmerston North, who has been associated with the firm of Barraud and Abraham, Ltd., for a number of years, has been promoted to the managership of the firm's Wellington branch.

Mr and Mrs G. W. Hean, of Wanganui, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Garling, of Sydney, are on a tour of the thermal district, which will include a trip down the Wanganui River from Taumarunui to Pipiriki, and the Waitomo Caves.

Captain Thomas Martin Wilkes, who has been awarded the Military Cross, is the son of Mr. Walter Wilkes, Thames. He was educated at King's College, Auckland, and is well-known in athletic circles. He joined the New Zealand Staff Corps in 1911, and left for the front with the 2nd Battalion New Zealand Rifle Brigade in November, 1915. He has lately been transferred to the Flying Corps, and is now in training in England.

The Tourist Department reports that the Milford track is now open. There are a fair number of North Island visitors touring the cold lakes of Otago or making arrangements for the tour.

Sergeant J. J. Moriarty, of the Australian Forces, who was recently wounded, has been awarded the Military Medal for distinguished service on the battlefield. Sergeant Moriarty is an old Ashburton boy.

Mr. L. F. Ayson, Chief Inspector of Fisheries, has just concluded the erection of additions to the Hakataramea hatchery to cope with the increased hatching of salmon ova which will be undertaken this season. The hatchery is now capable of hatching 2,500,000 salmon ova in the one batch, and if sufficient of these ova are eyed before the salmon spawning run is over, and it is found practicable to place the eyed ova promptly in the rivers for which they are destined, their places can be taken by fresh ova, probably to the extent of half the capacity again of the hatchery.

Lieutenant Edwin Royden Wells, of the Otago Mounted Rifles, was recently awarded the Military Cross. The official description of the services which gained him this decoration runs as follows: "For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in leading his party through heavy shell fire in an attempt to gain information. Finding it impossible to take his men further owing to machine gun fire, he went forward alone, gaining valuable and definite information, and by his fine leadership and good judgment finally withdrawing his troop with very few casualties."

A largely-attended public meeting held recently at Cardiff, Wales, called in connection with the Sailors' and Firemen's Union, decided to form a branch of the Seamen's League to punish the Germans for their U-boat crimes. Mr. James Henson, one of the leaders of the union, said the British seamen would see that Germans never again sailed in British-owned ships. Lord Beresford, in a tribute to the heroism of the mercantile marine, supported the union's plan for a two years' boycott of Germans and everything German. We had got to punish the Germans for their crimes, he said. Sir Edward Nicholl, who presided, declared that German submarines still learn when ships were leaving our ports. It was done by telegrams such as "Mary will be home to-morrow" sent to Ireland. Germans were still walking about Bristol, Cardiff, and Swansea docks.

To commemorate the heroic deeds and unselfish devotion of trade unionists and members of other labour organisations fallen in action or incapacitated, the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress and the National Executive of the Labour Party have decided to recommend the erection in London of a Memorial of Freedom and Peace to be known as the National Labour Institute. This is to be the headquarters of the two bodies, with offices, a conference hall, and hotel accommodation for trade unionists and other labour delegates in London on labour business. It is suggested that part of the memorial be devoted to scholarships and other educational assistance for the children of members who have fallen.

Sandy McTavish was a highly-skilled workman in a new aircraft factory. Therefore it happened one day that Sandy was asked if he would care to accompany the works aviator on one of his trial trips in a machine. Sandy, after some hesitation, agreed to do so. During the flight the aviator asked how he was enjoying it. "To tell the truth," answered the Scot, "I wad rather be on the ground." "Tut, tut," replied the flying man. "I'm just thinking of looping the loop." "For Heaven's sake, don't dae that," yelled the now very nervous McTavish; "I've some siller in my vest pocket, and I might lose it."



SIR ERIC GEDDES, First Lord of the Admiralty, starting out to keep an appointment. Sir Eric Geddes is the inaugurator of a new regime at the Admiralty. Hitherto the position of First Lord has always been held by a politician. To-day it is occupied by a man of trained business experience, distinguished for his untiring energy and brilliant initiative. Now that he is "Ruler of the King's Navee," great things are expected.

The Maoris have already collected £14,000 towards £25,000 which it is intended to raise for the relief of Maori soldiers and their dependants.

Lieutenant C. M. Morris, of Kawhia (son of Mr. W. R. Morris, secretary of the Post and Telegraph Department), was entertained recently by residents in that district, and presented with a case of pipes. The chairman spoke of Lieutenant Morris's many public services, and made special reference to the good work which he had done while president of the Chamber of Commerce.

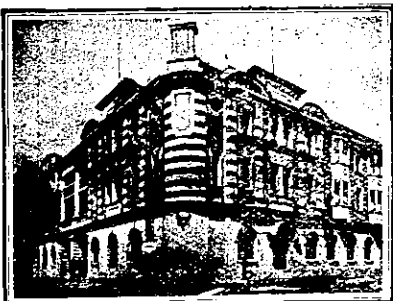
A Press Association message from Sydney states that Captain J. T. Lang, of Palmerston North, has been transferred to the Indian Army.

Lieut. Godfrey Holdsworth, of the London office of the New Zealand Shipping Company, has been awarded the Military Cross. Lieut. Holdsworth is son of Mr Charles Holdsworth, managing director of the Union Steam Ship Company.

The death is announced in Sydney of Captain W. G. Bentley, Brigade Bandmaster to the New South Wales Forces, and formerly admitted to be one of the finest judges of band music in Australia. He was tendered a military funeral, with a firing party of fifty, and the massed bands of Sydney played at the graveside.

An interesting record has been put up by Mr. Duncan Sutherland, well-known throughout Otago, and particularly in North Otago. He has just finished superintending his fiftieth year of shearing at Omarama. During that period, 2,200,000 sheep have been shorn in the Omarama sheds. Mr. Sutherland, it may be mentioned, had for some years the management of the Morven Hills and Ardgowan properties, and during that time quite a million sheep were shorn.

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