

Probably the English brides of New Zealand soldiers are reaching the Dominion in considerable numbers, but the invasion is a very real and startling thing here (states the Sydney correspondent of the Christchurch "Press"). The young wives of the Anzacs are pouring into Australia in a steady stream, much to the consternation of our marriageable girls, of whom the supply is already in excess of the demand. A transport which arrived at Fremantle recently with invalided soldiers had 300 brides aboard, coming to join their soldier husbands here—a fine, wholesome party of English girls. Some had been married a considerable time. Several babies were with the young wives, many were born aboard, and a few died. Eighty of these girls arrived at Sydney station, and were given a cordial welcome. Generally, the type did not have the peculiar style and chic of the Sydney girl. She did not have the natty silk stockings and flashing transparencies—but she was charming, for all that, with a very noticeable air of domestication. It was noticeable, too, that the soldiers who claimed them were generally of a very good type—the very men who ought to be the solid citizens and fathers of the future. That they have chosen these modest English girls, instead of the smart and "sporty" Australian miss, should make the latter seriously think. "They say that we have been glad to marry Anzacs," said one little lady to a reporter. "They don't seem to realise that these soldiers are the kind that girls anywhere would be glad to marry." The reporter, on his own account, added that the great majority of the newcomers were girls whom men anywhere would also be glad to choose. But this detracts nothing from the disconsolate view of the situation being taken by feminine Australia.

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